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ABSTRACT

Data collected from an extensive review of 300 publications dealing with library cost studies are presented in 63 graphs. This probably includes most of the published data on costs of library technical processes up to the early 1970's. All data shown in this report has been corrected for general inflationary trends by converting the source data into constant 1967 dollars. This is a summary of preliminary research done by the author whose main objectives are to show that there is a lot of such data available, and that it clearly shows an upward trend in all unit costs. Statistical analysis of the data has not yet been done. (Author/AP)

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SUMMARY COST DATA FROM 300 REPORTS OF LIBRARY TECHNICAL PROCESSING ACTIVITIES

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by

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INTRODUCTION

The data included in this report has been collected from an extensive review of the literature on library cost studies, and probably includes most of the published library cost data up to the early 1970's. It was collected from over 300 publications as part of the author's personal research interest, and is part of a long range plan to do much more intensive work on this topic. The 63 plots of data provide a starting base for much more work that still needs to be done.

Because of the press of other activities and interests, it seems unlikely that I will be able to get back to this work for some time. Consequently, I thought it would be helpful to others if I released this summary information in its present form. My main objective is to show that there is a lot of library cost data available, and that it clearly shows an upward trend in all unit costs. All of the data shown in this report has been corrected for general inflationary trends by converting the source data into constant 1967 dollars. Each of the points on the plots shows a cost figure that was reported in the literature.

The original cost reports vary tremendously in their credibility, technique, accuracy, and definition of the topic under study. Because of this, it is extremely risky to use any of this data out of context, to do any statistical analysis work on it, or to attempt to compute equations or rates of growth for the time series of data. I was unable to take time time and effort to do that properly myself, and urge other readers to be careful in that regard. In order to keep this data from being used out of context, its reproduction for use in any other publication is not authorized without the written permission of this author.

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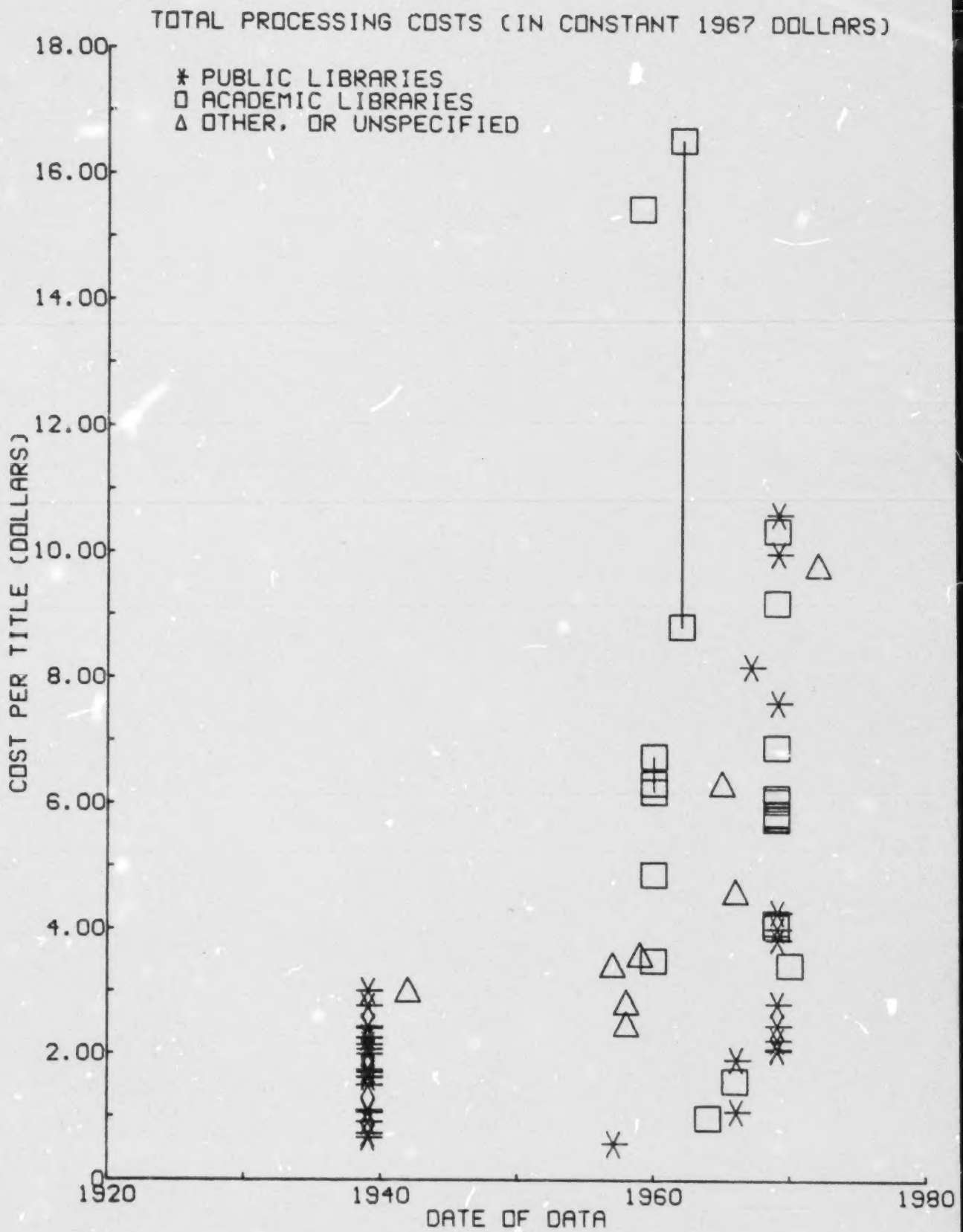

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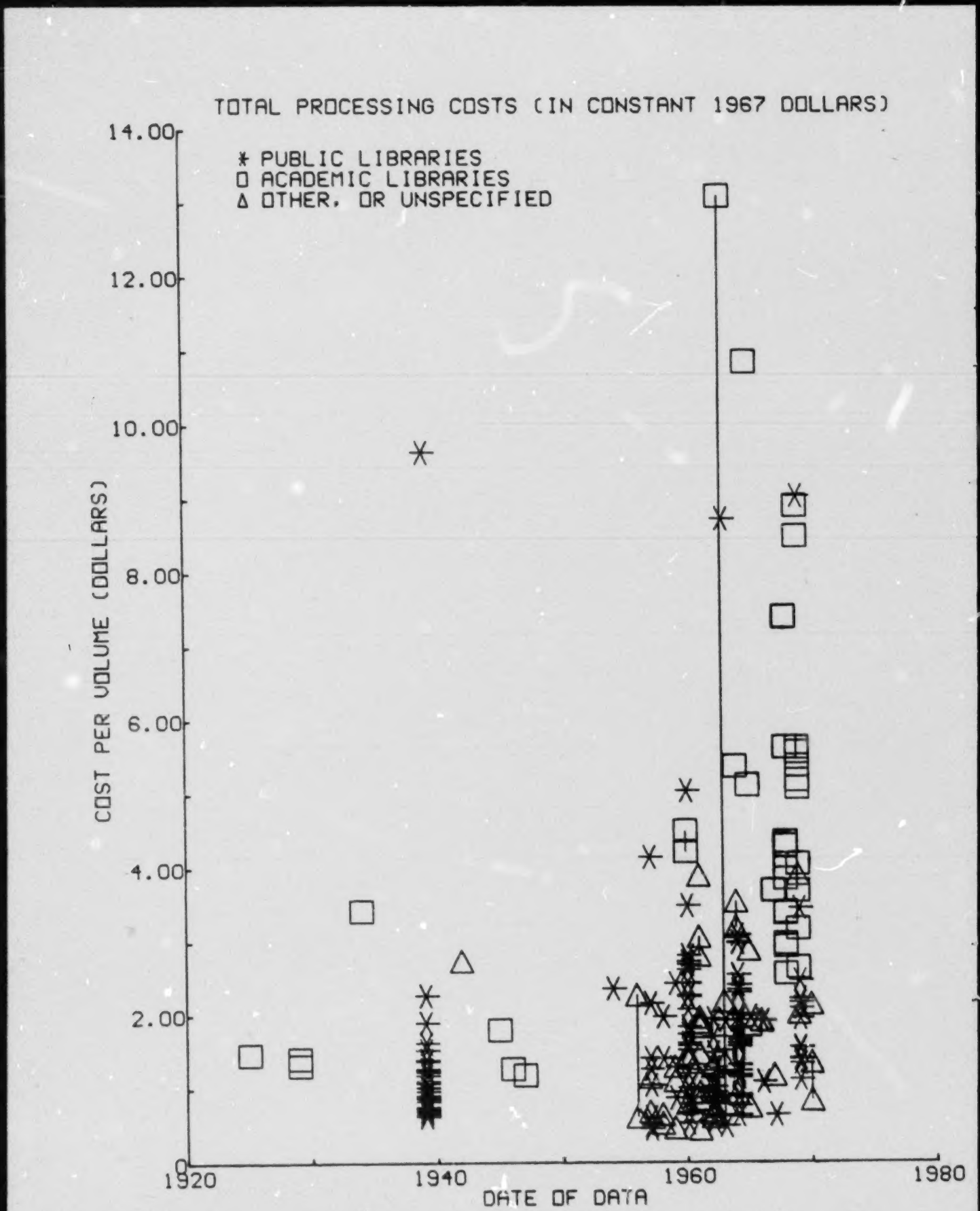

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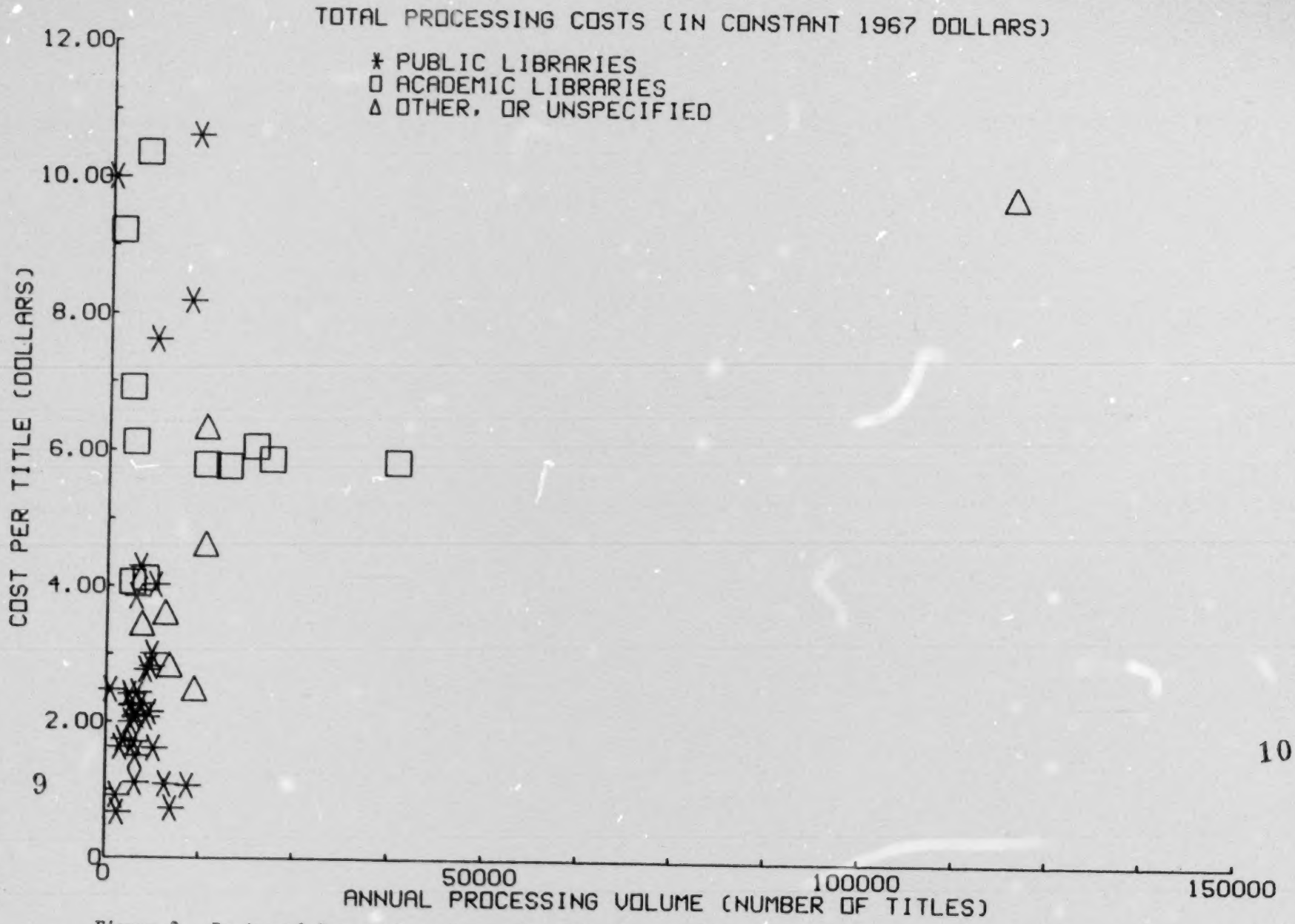

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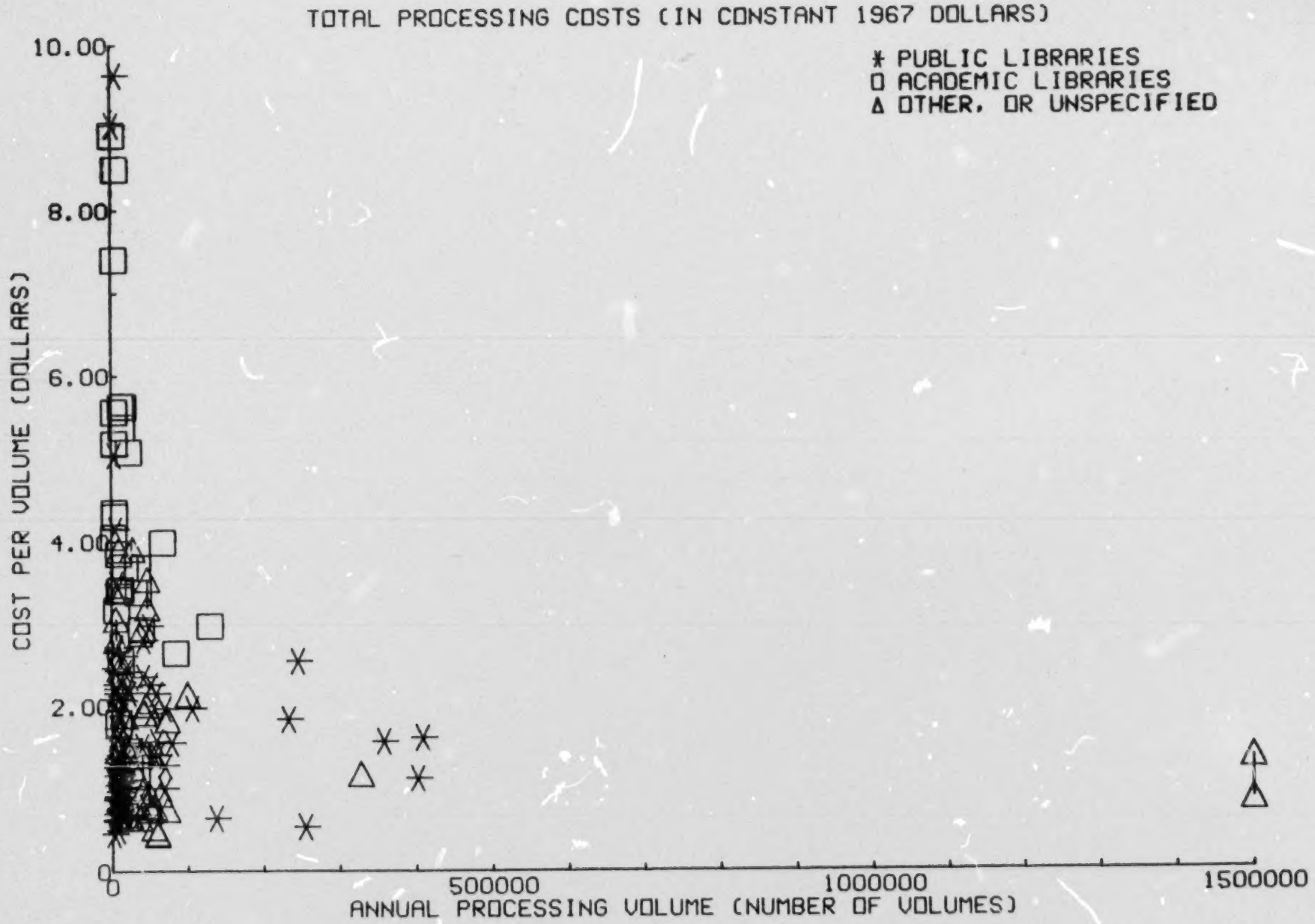

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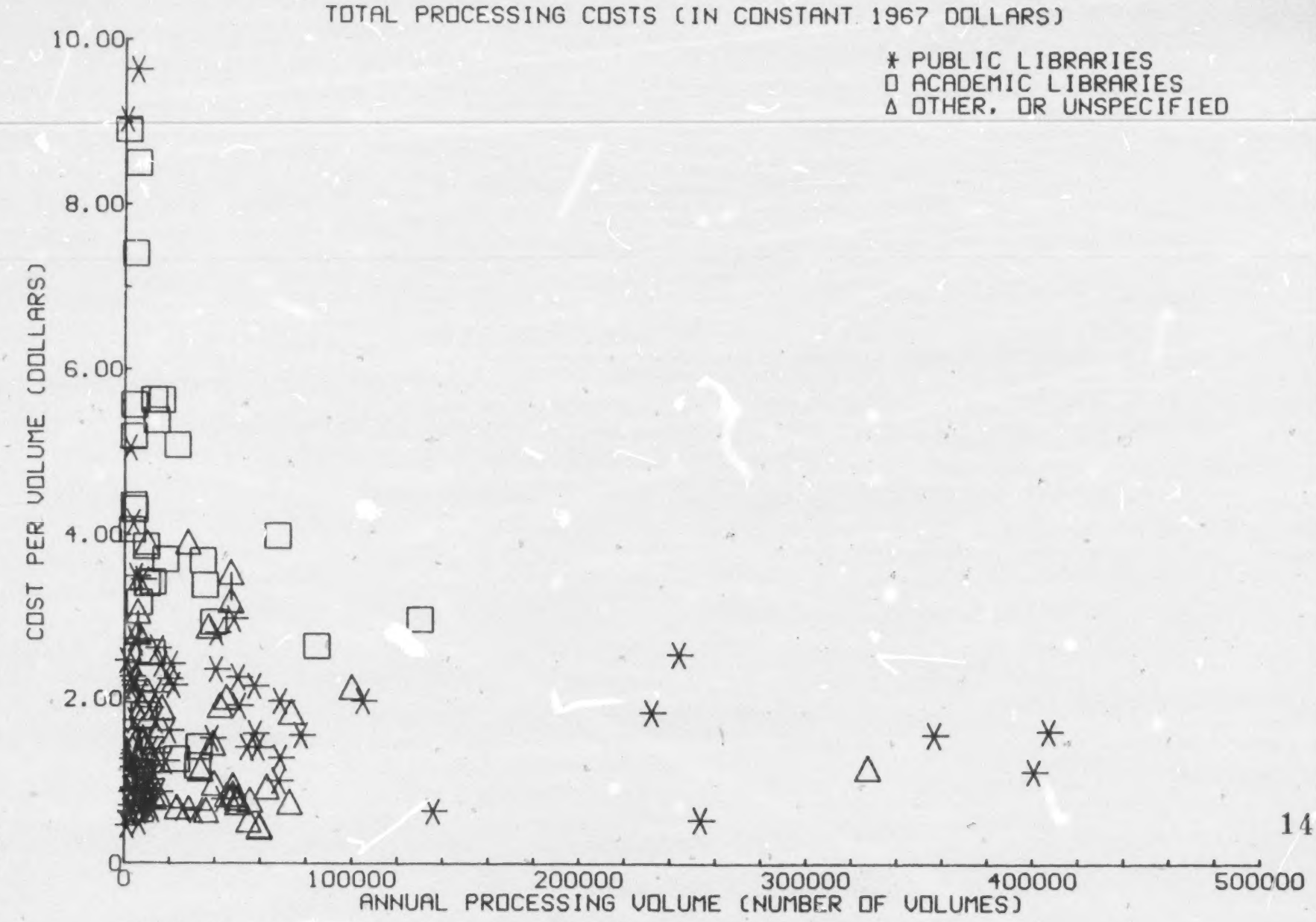

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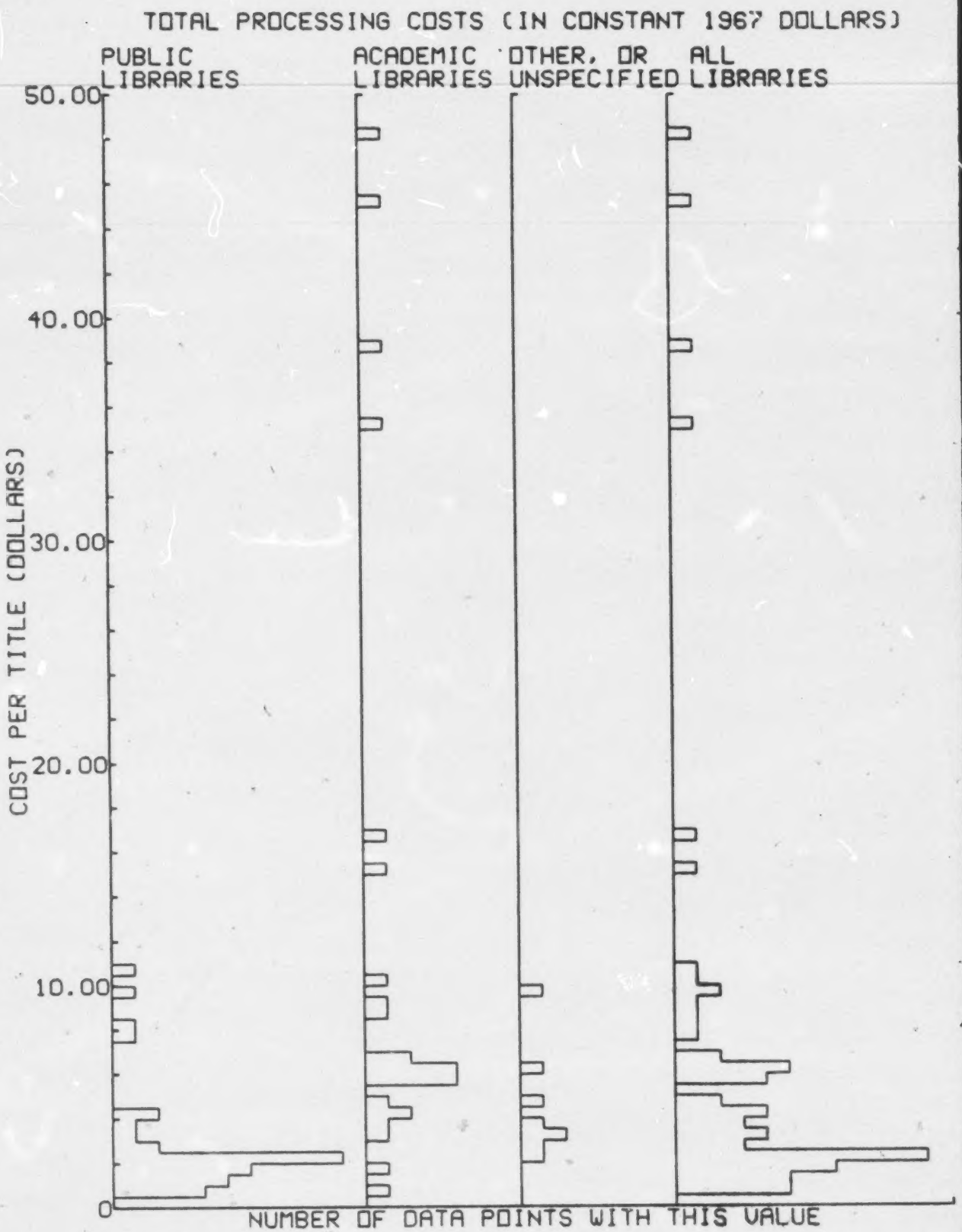

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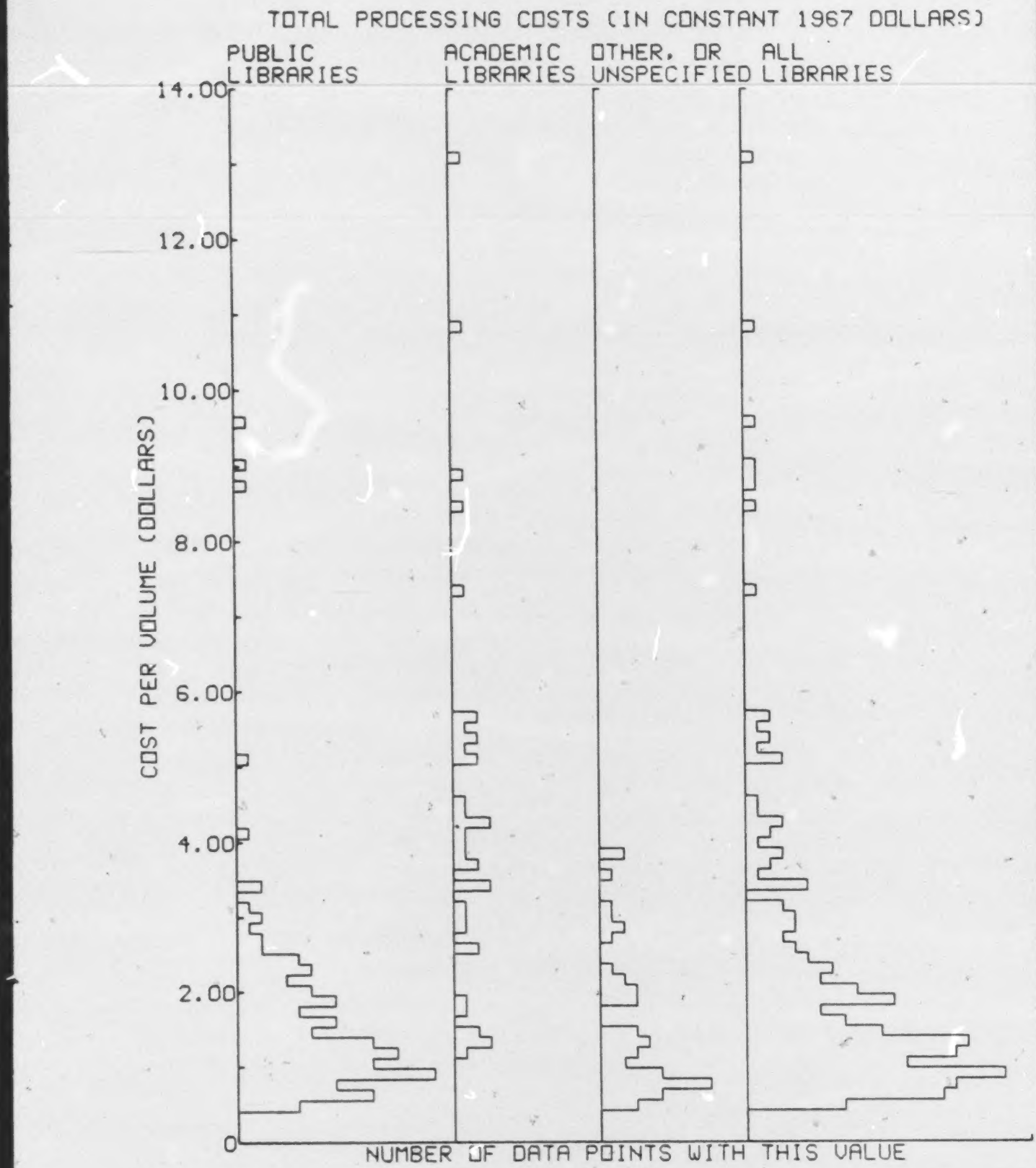

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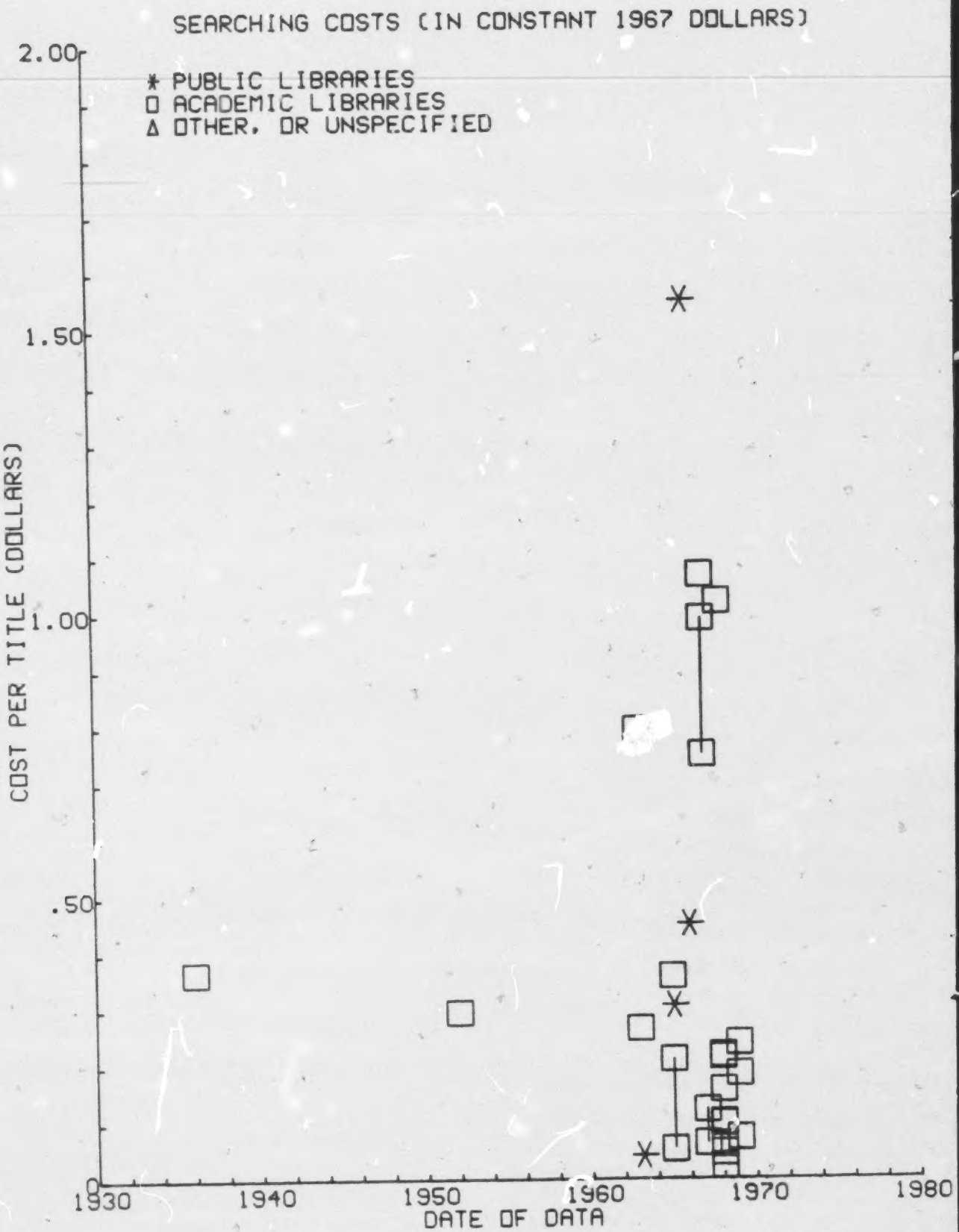

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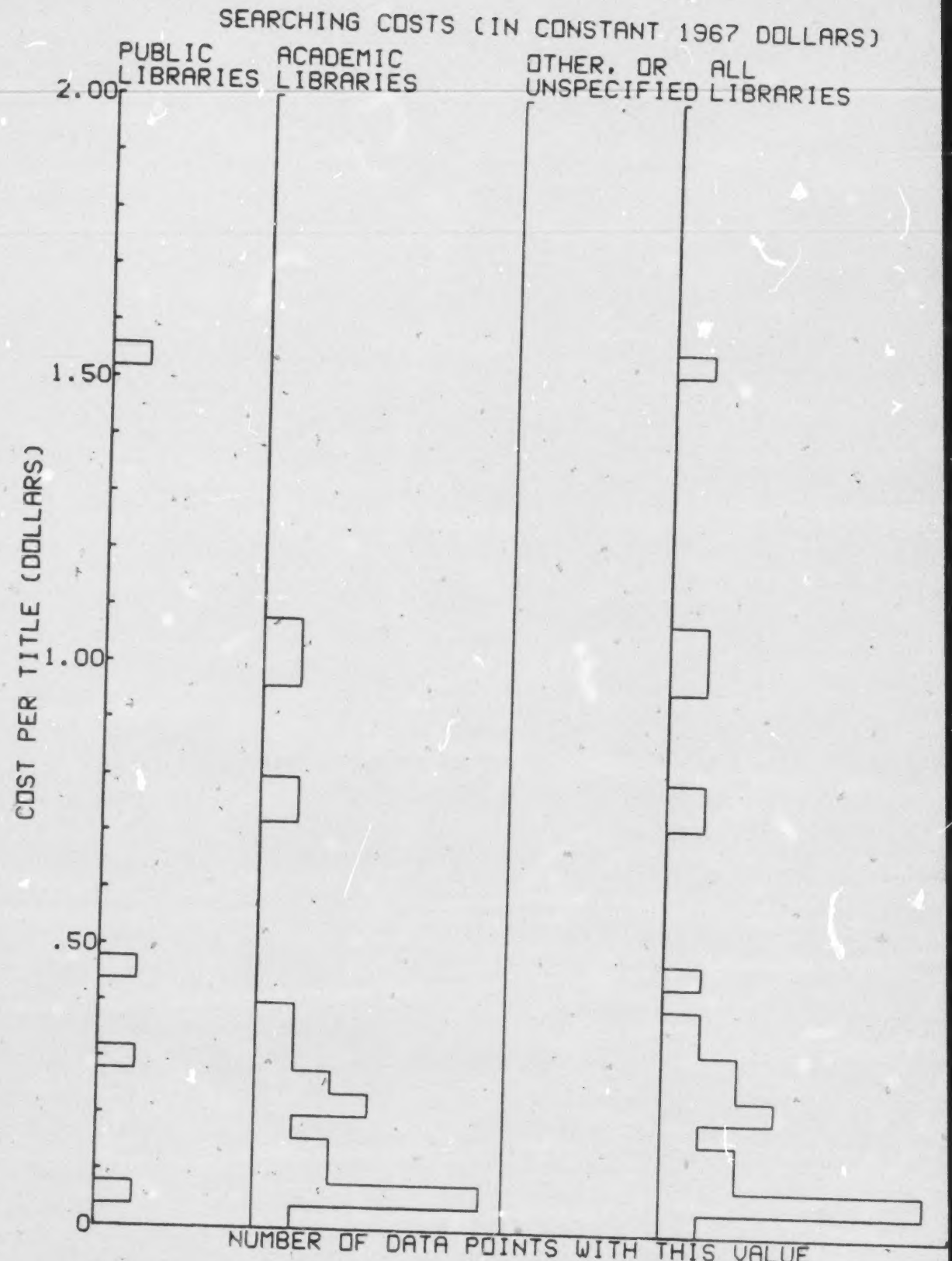

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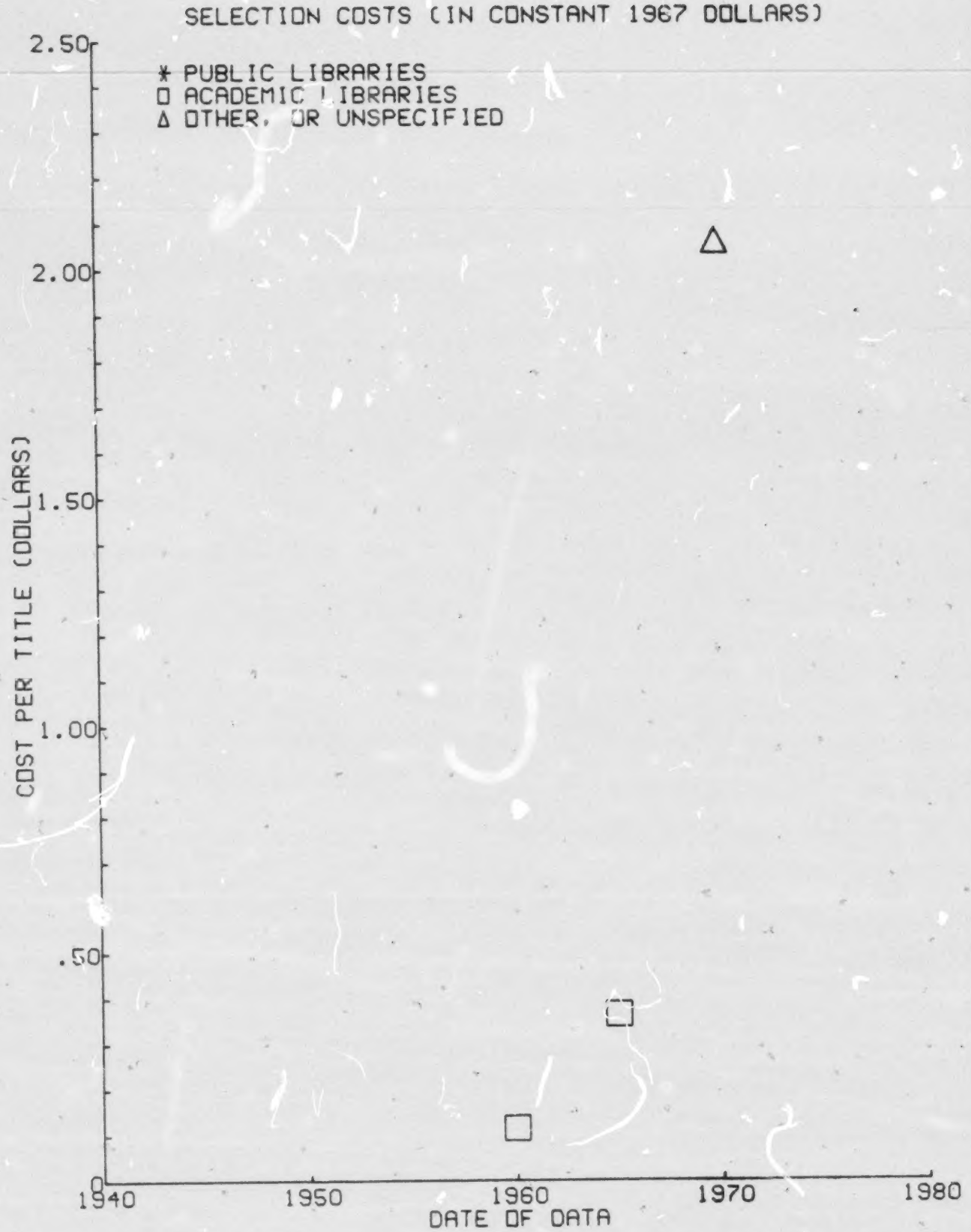

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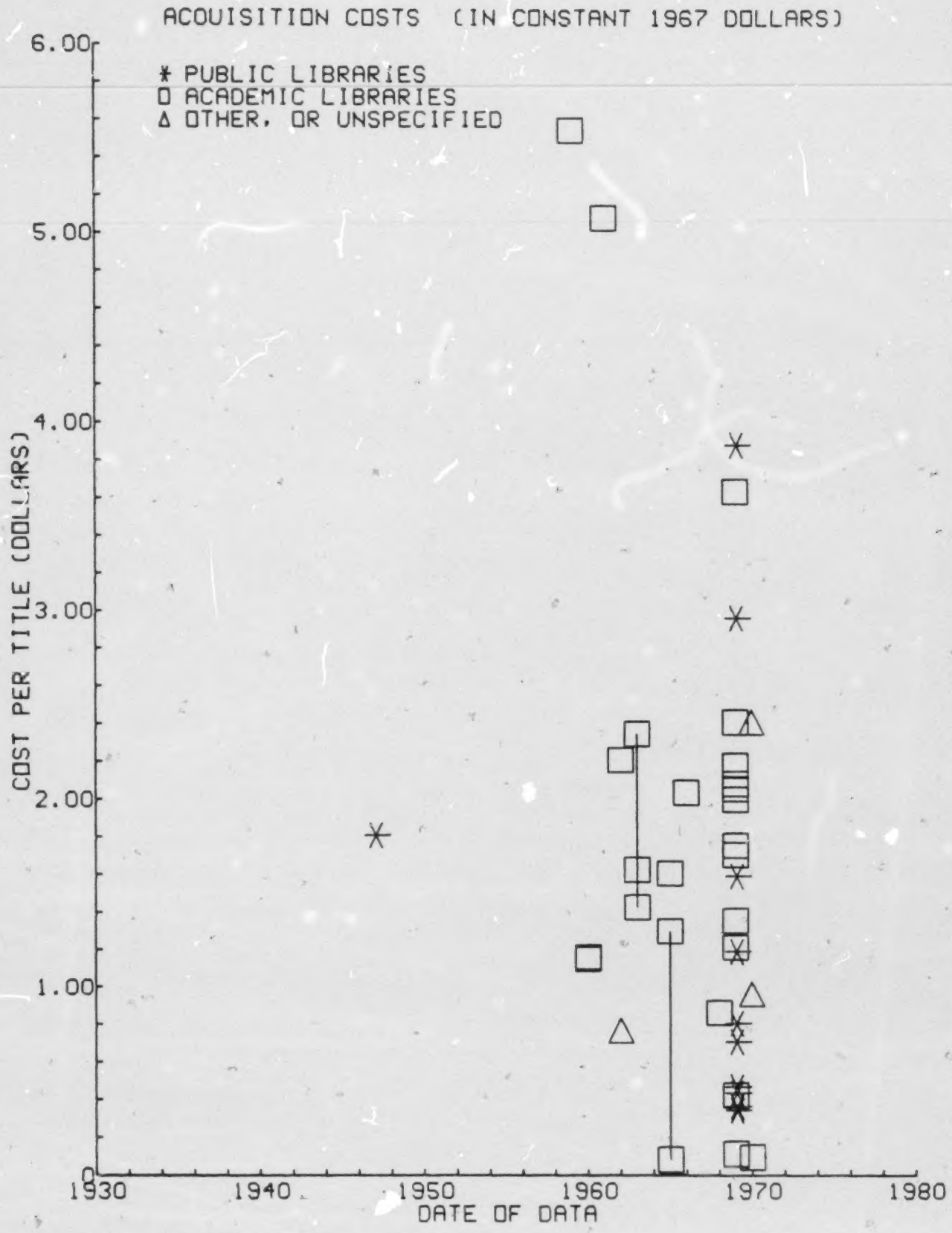

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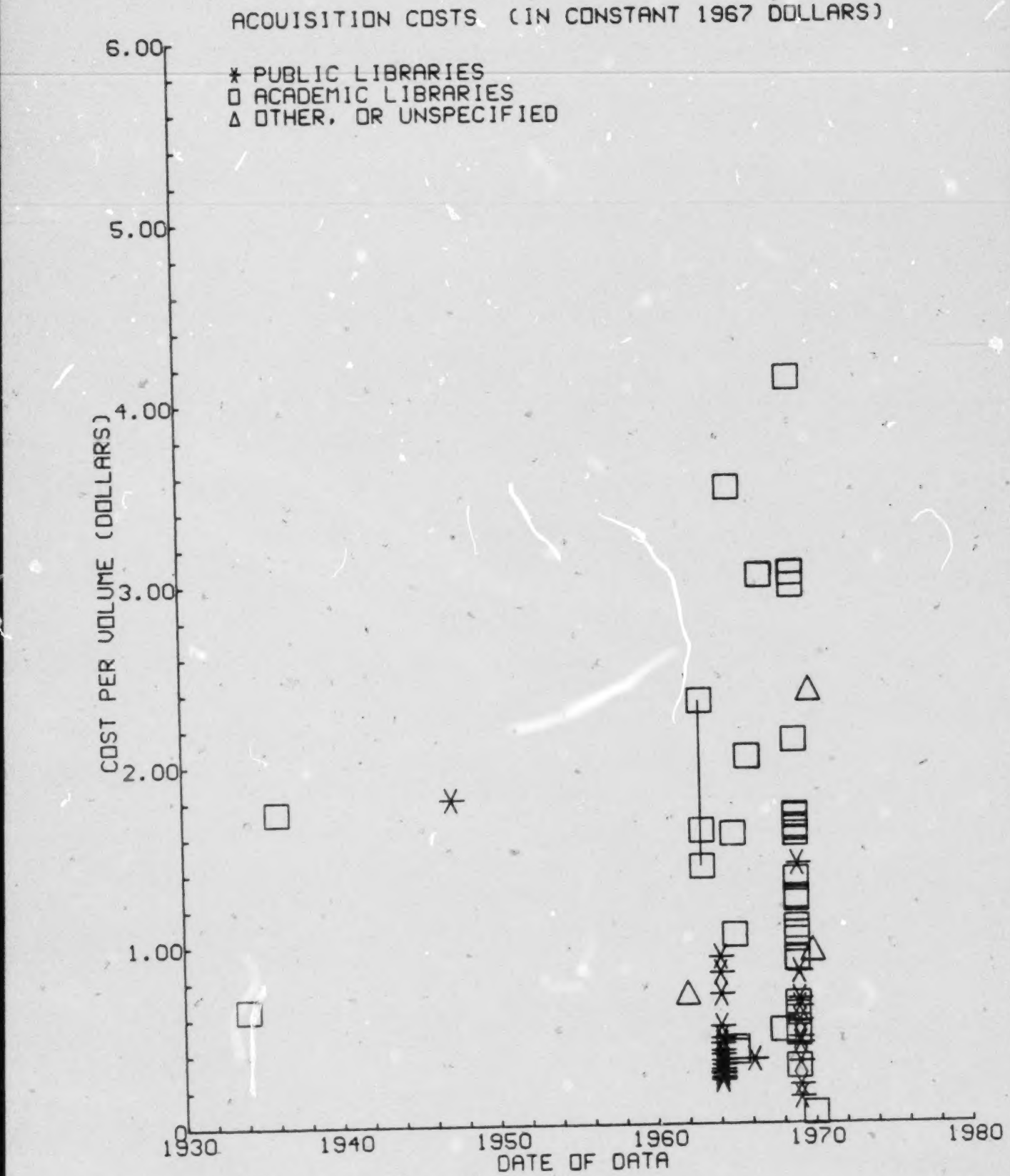

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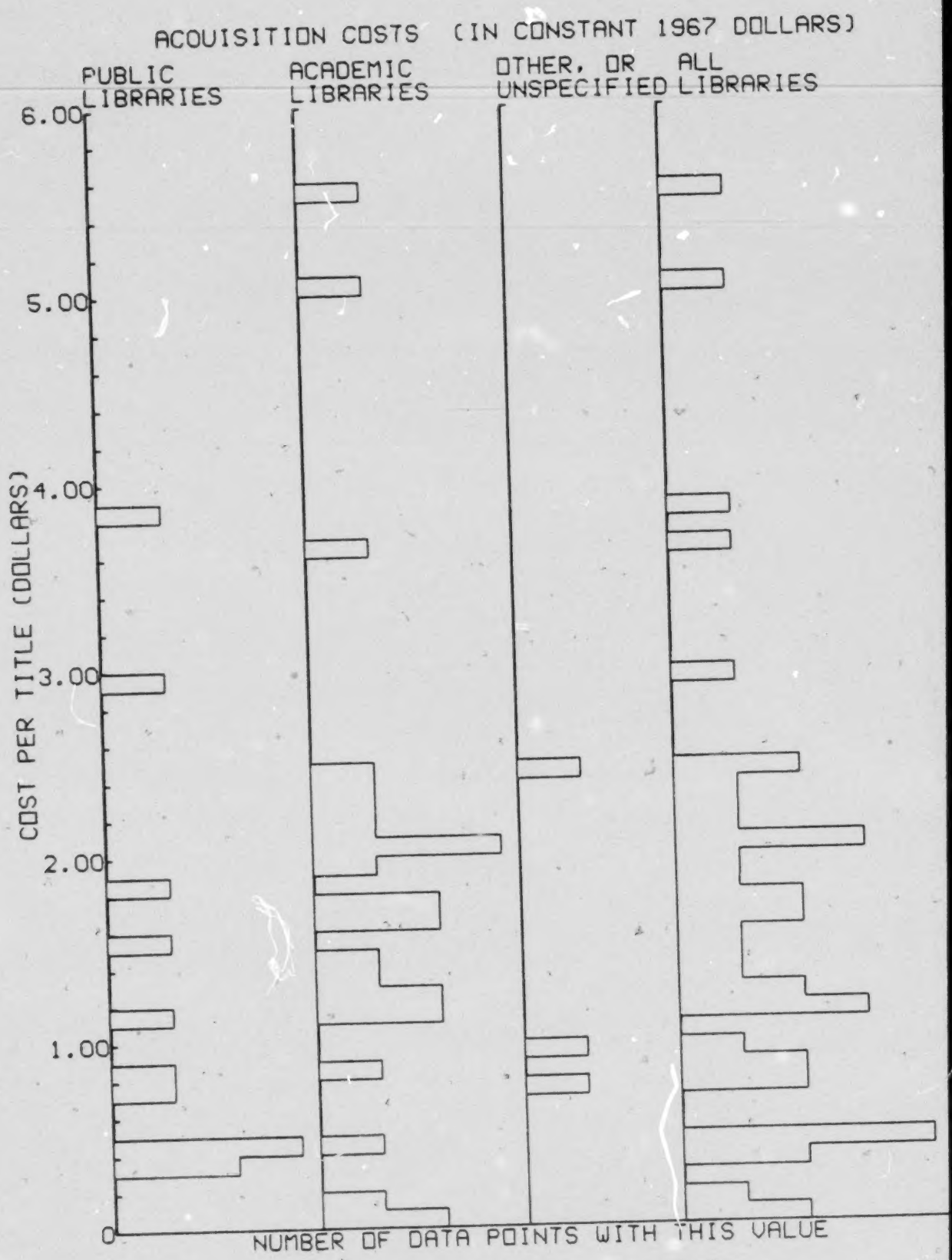

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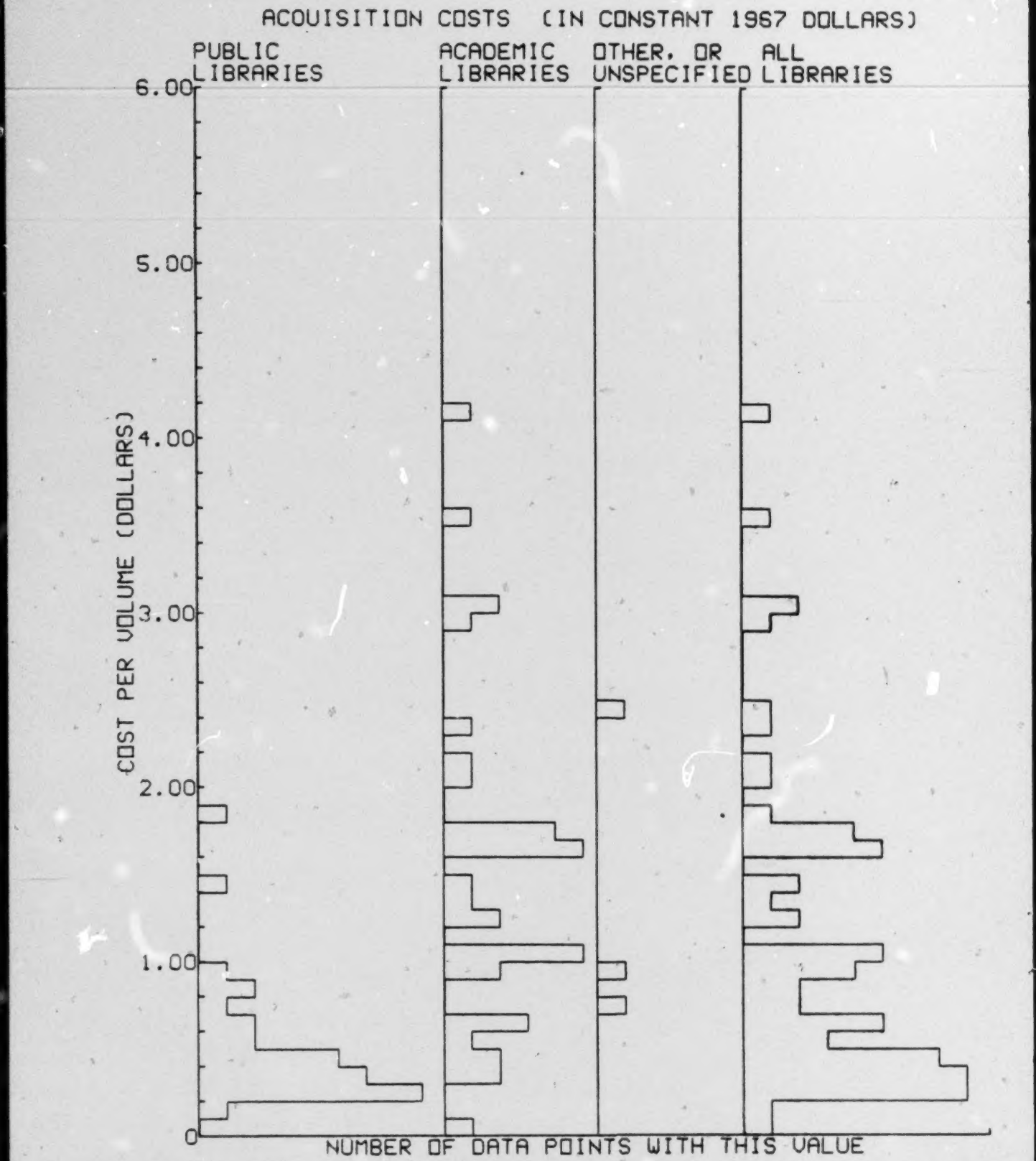

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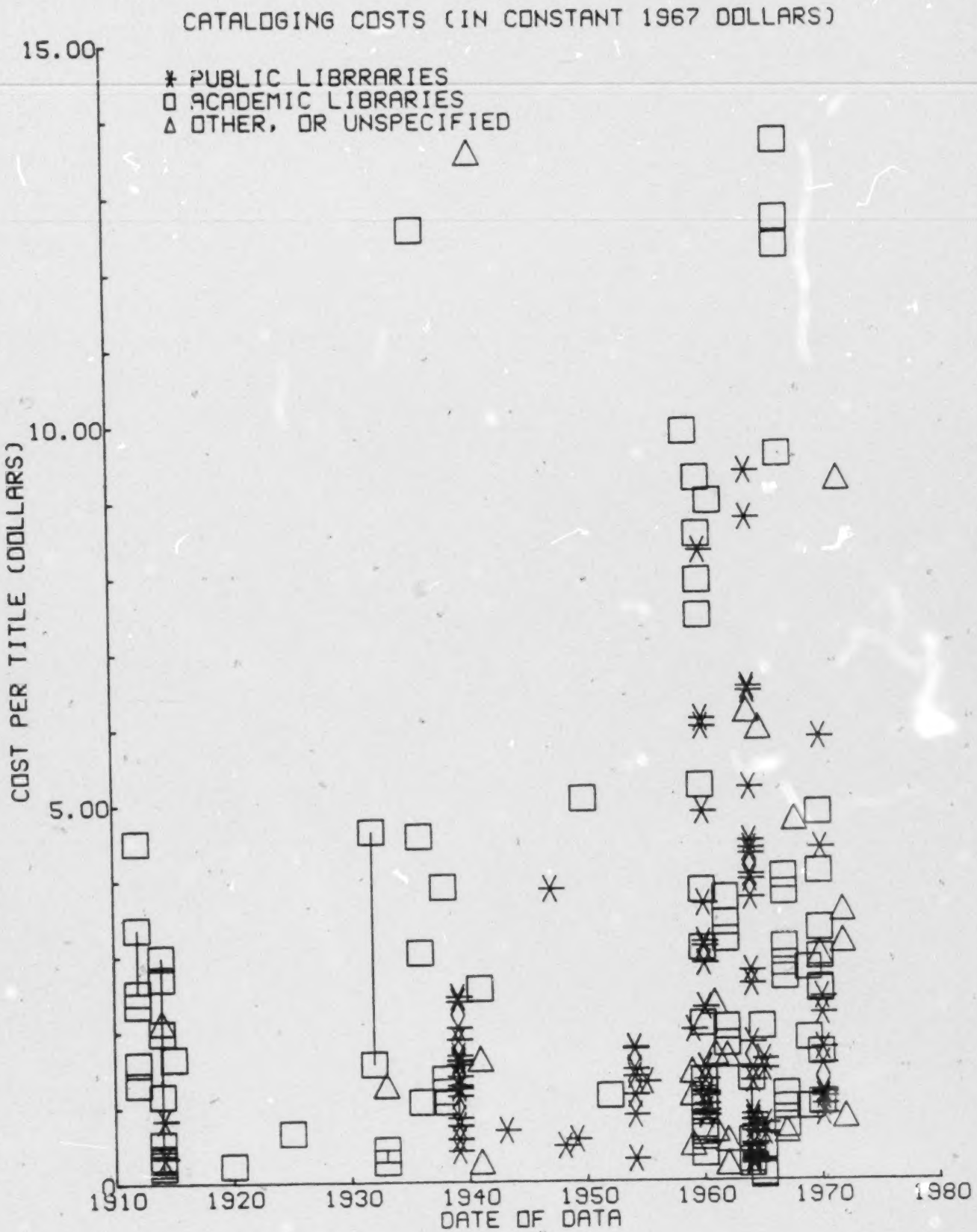

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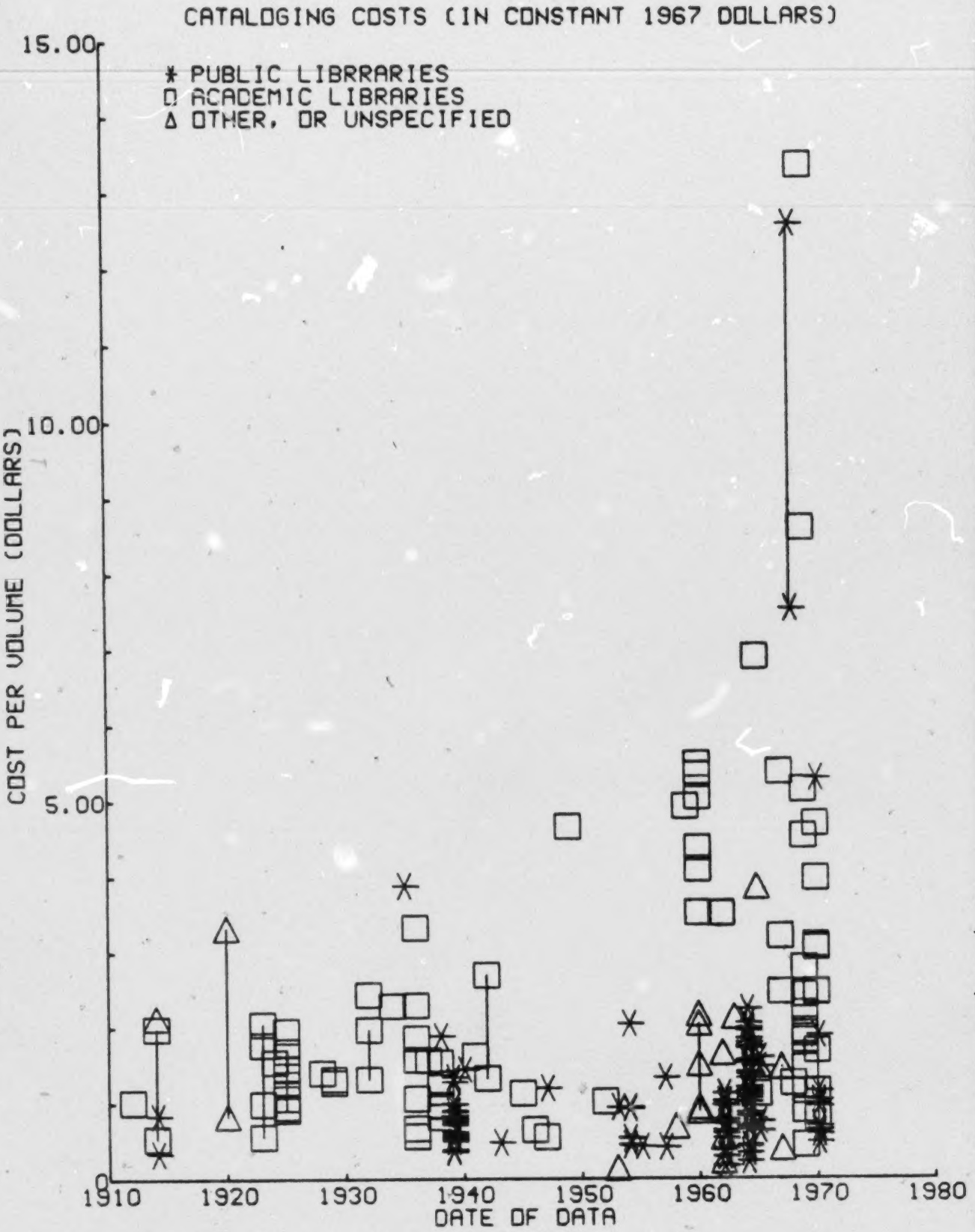

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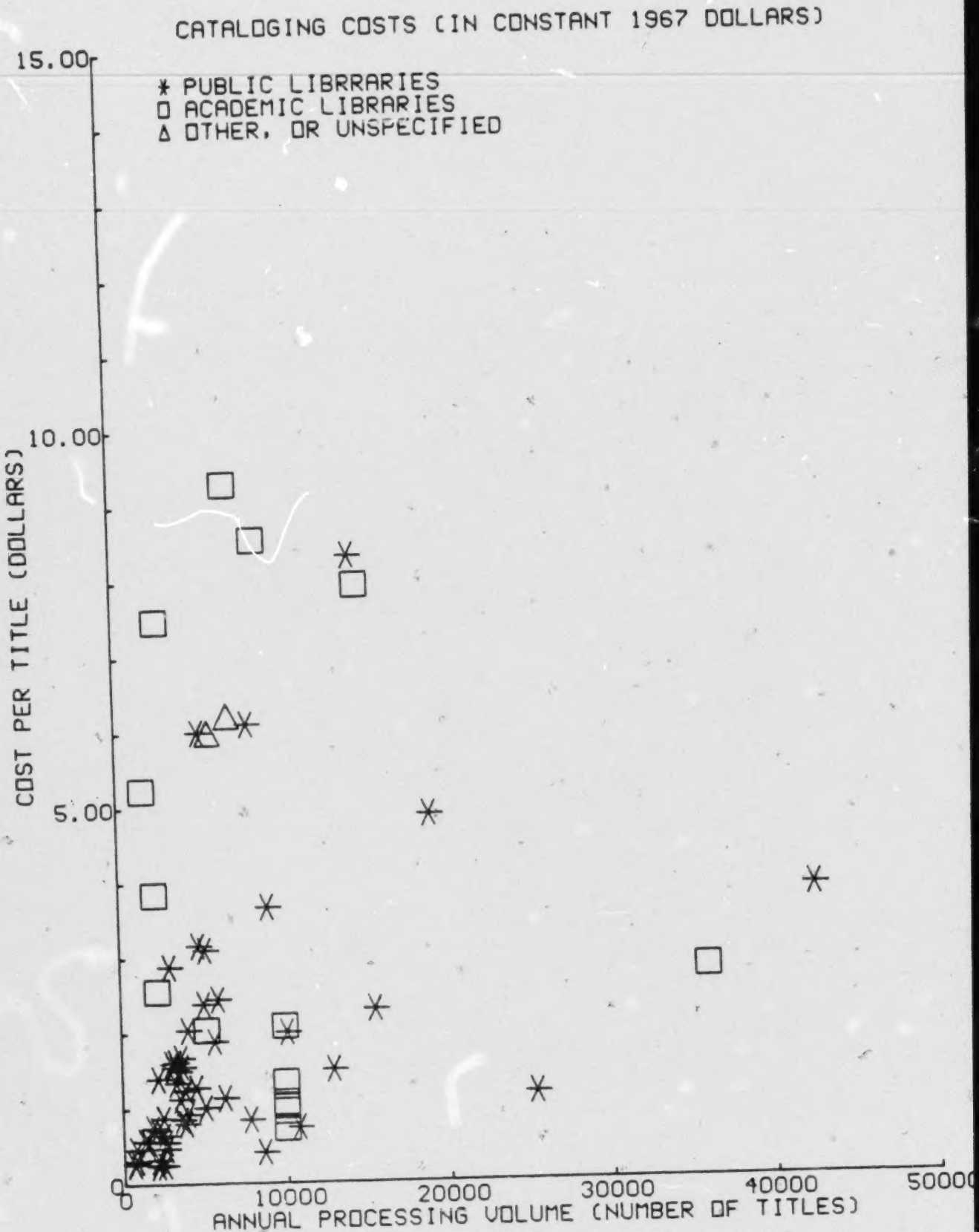

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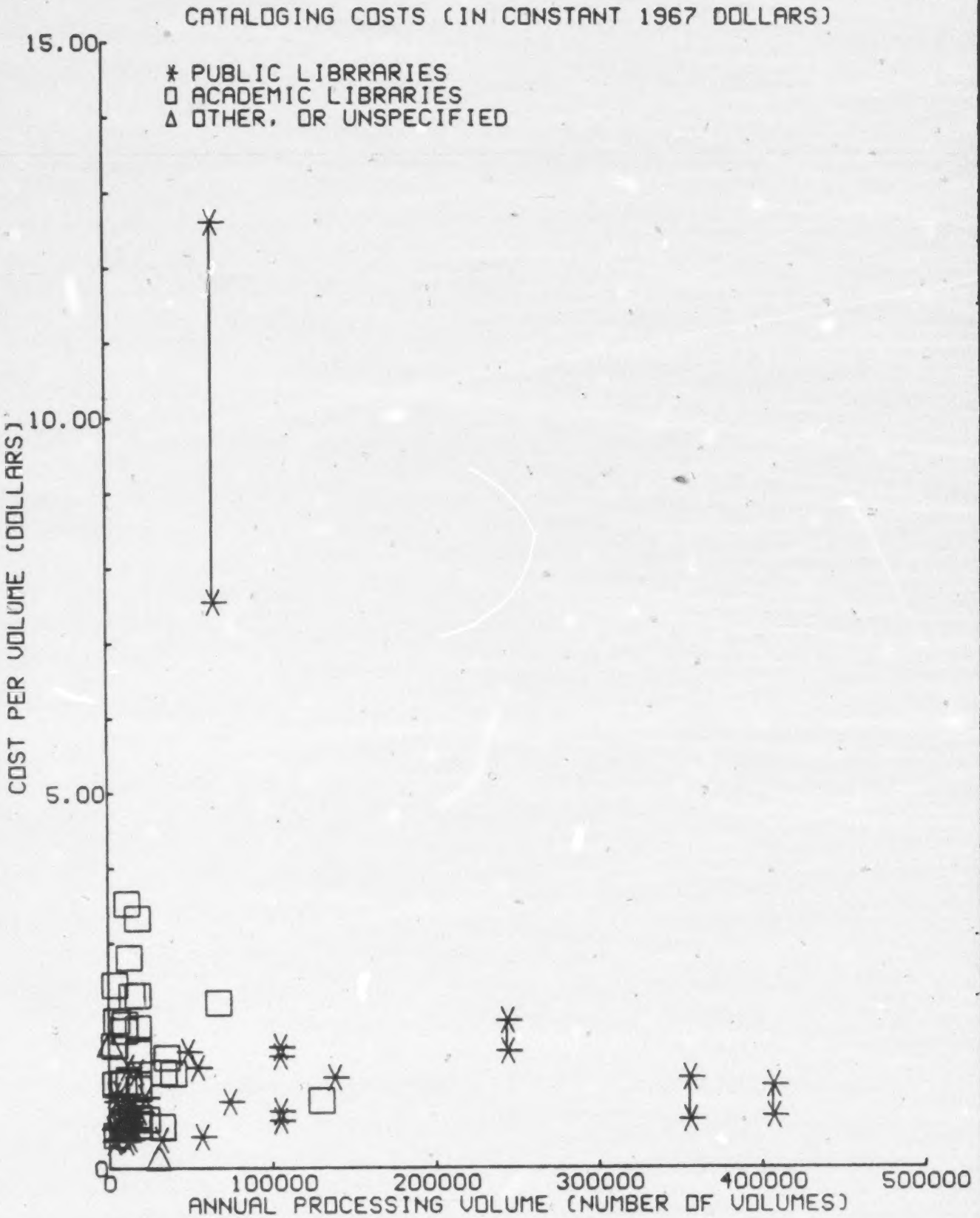

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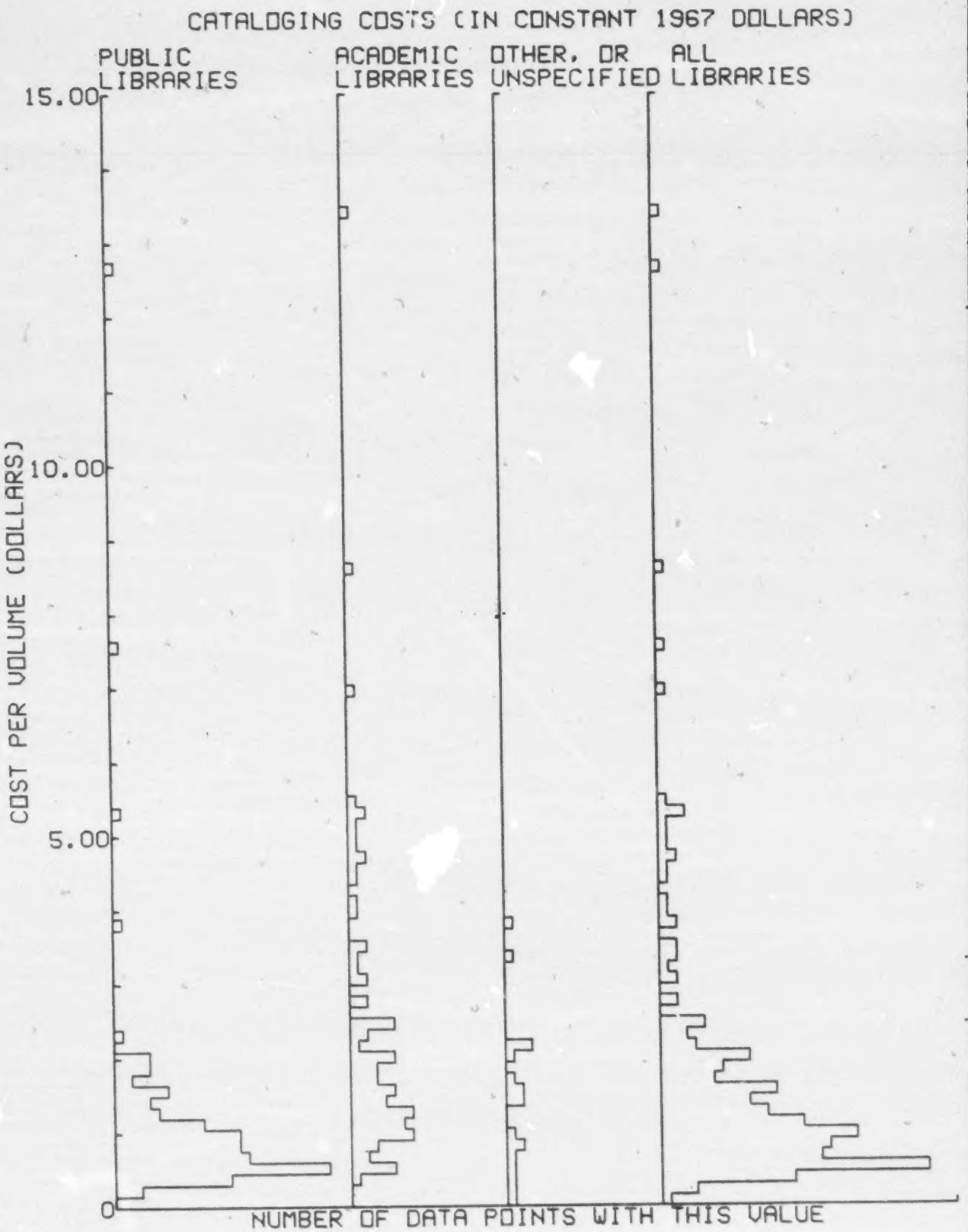

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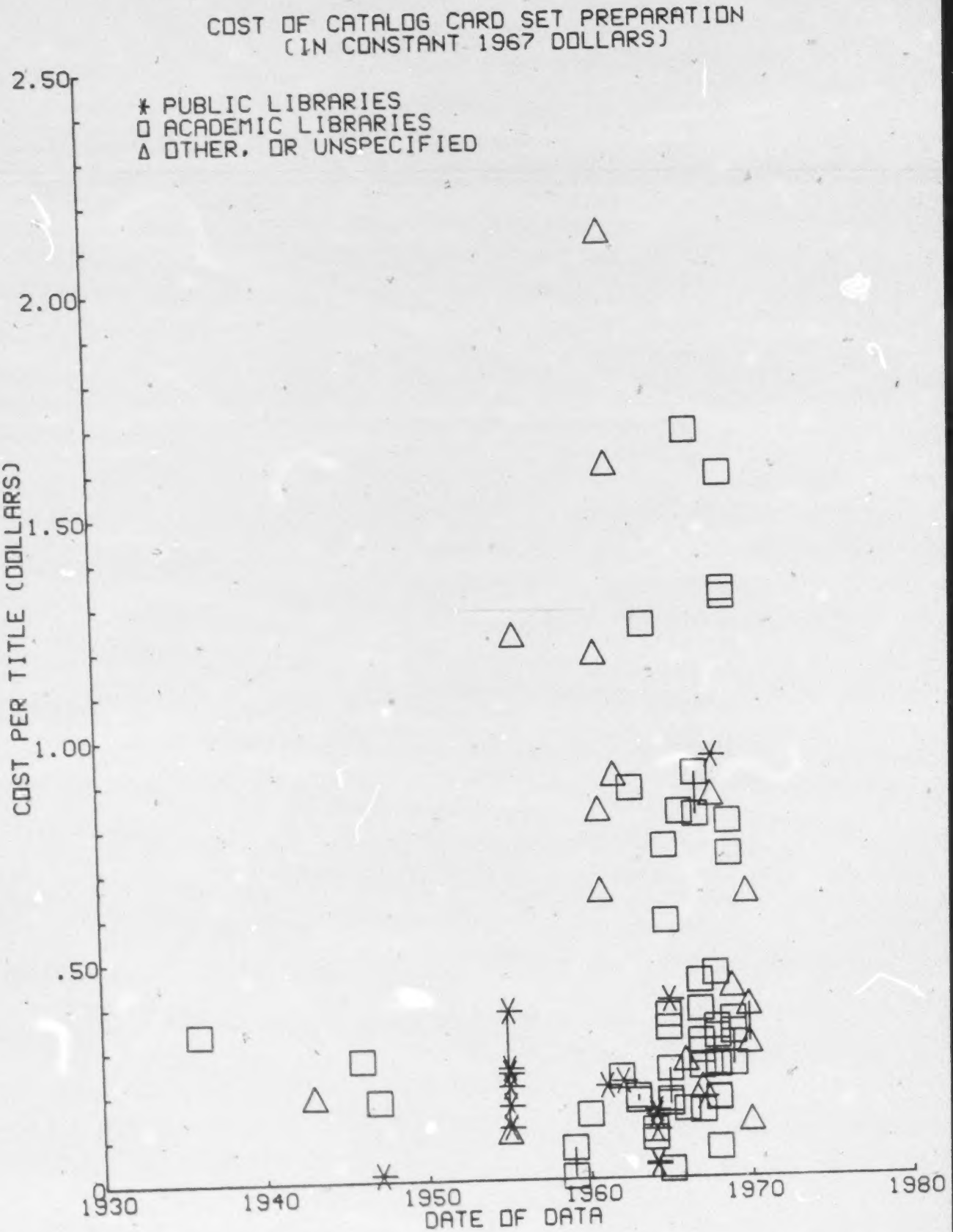

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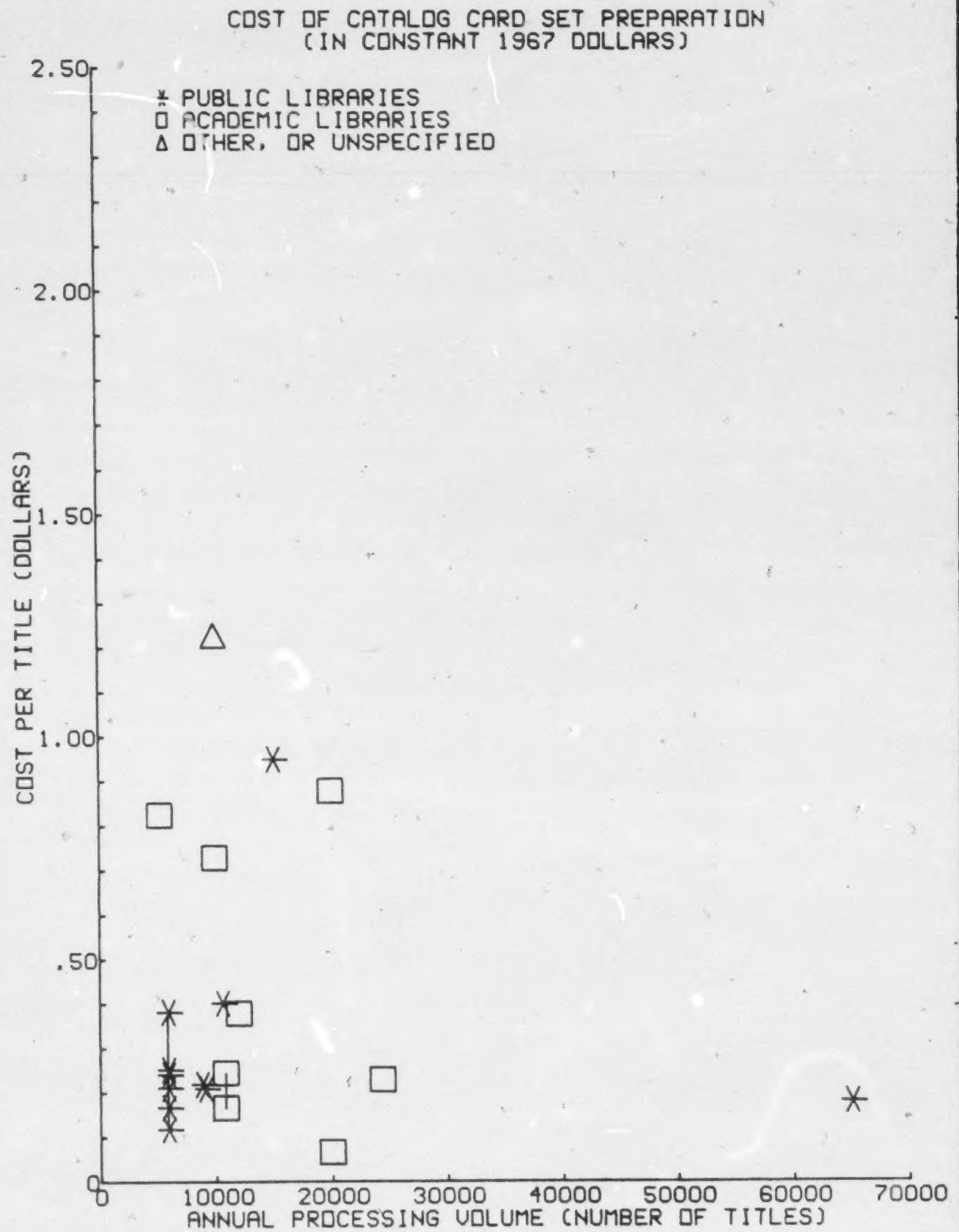

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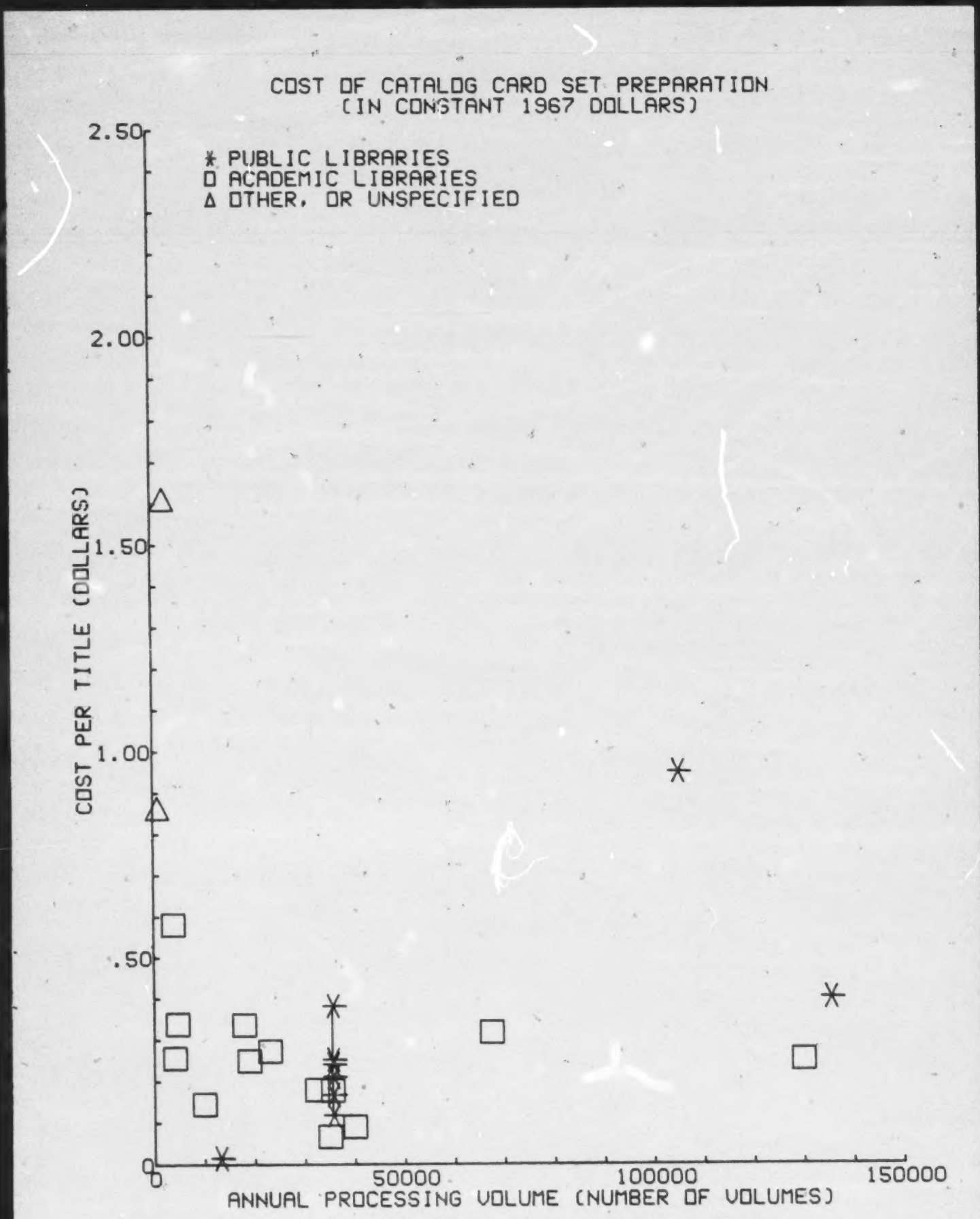

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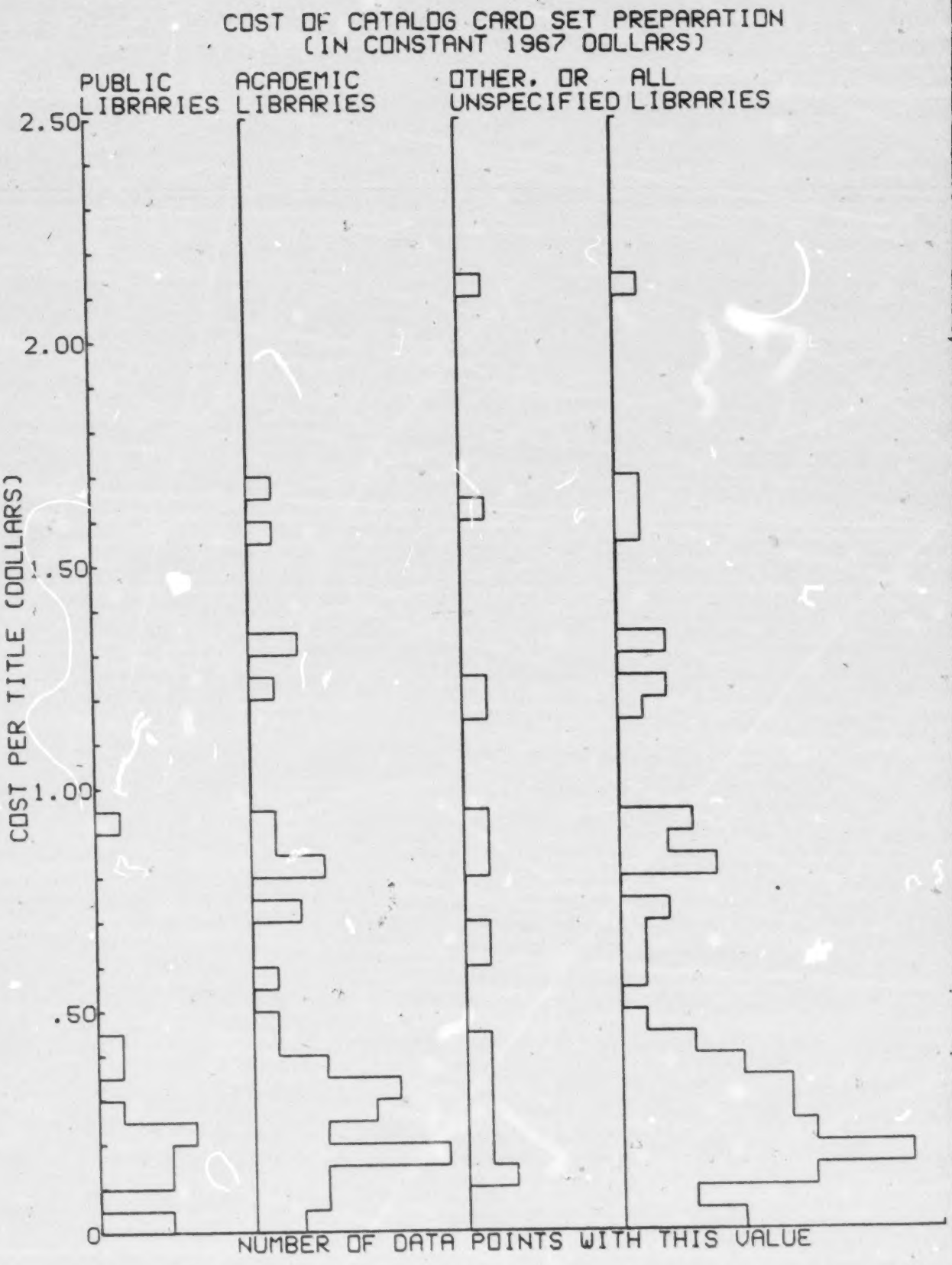

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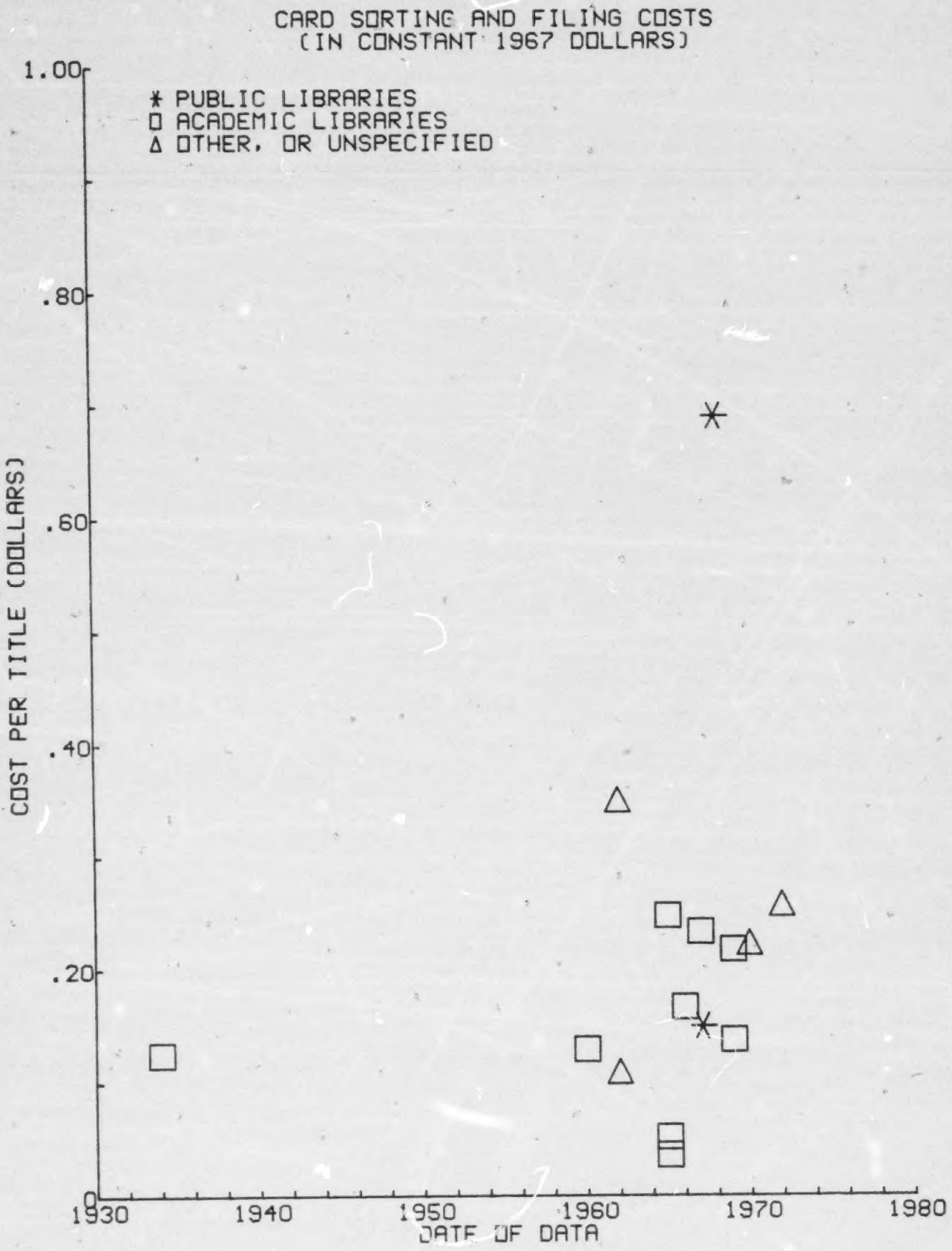

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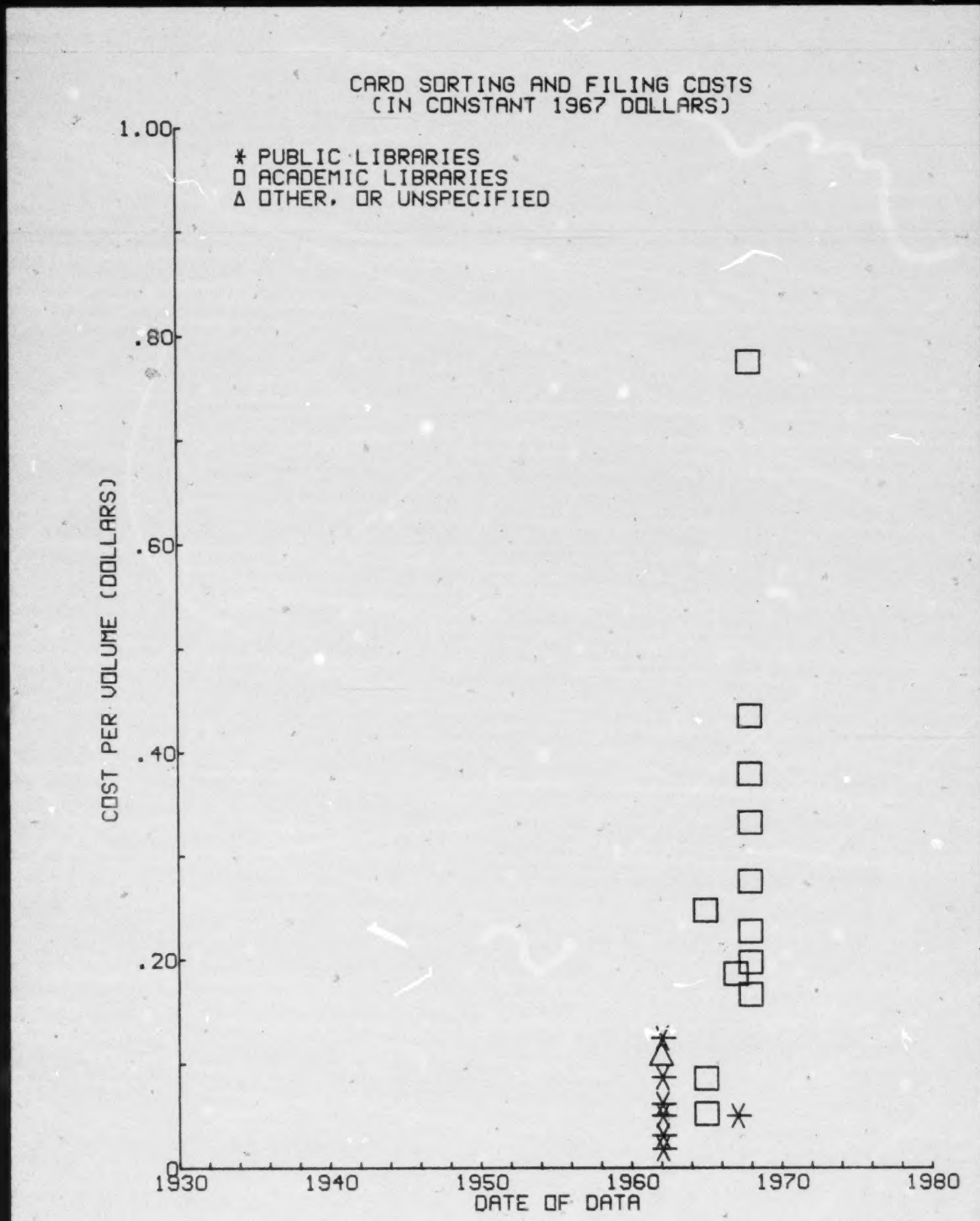

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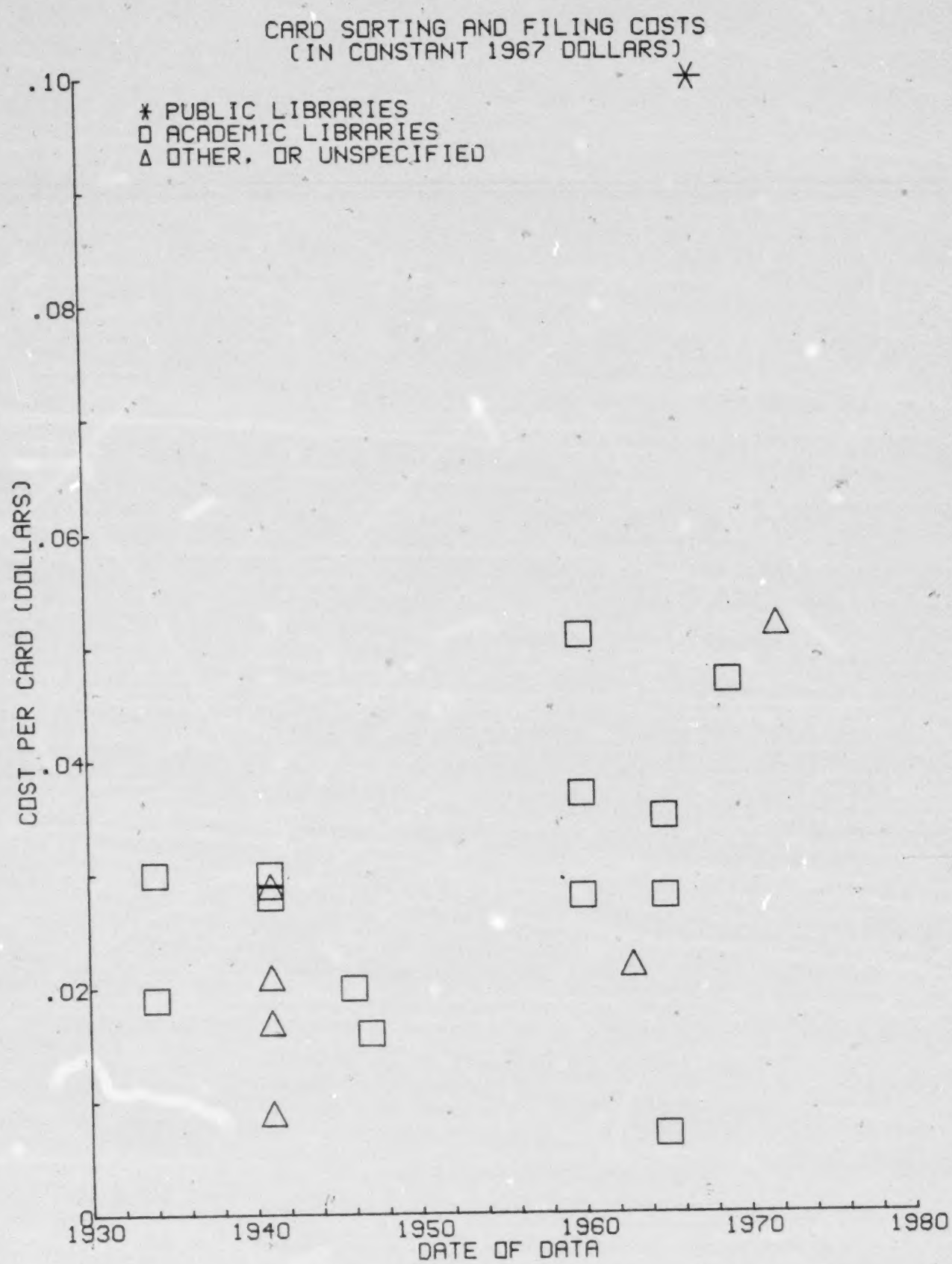

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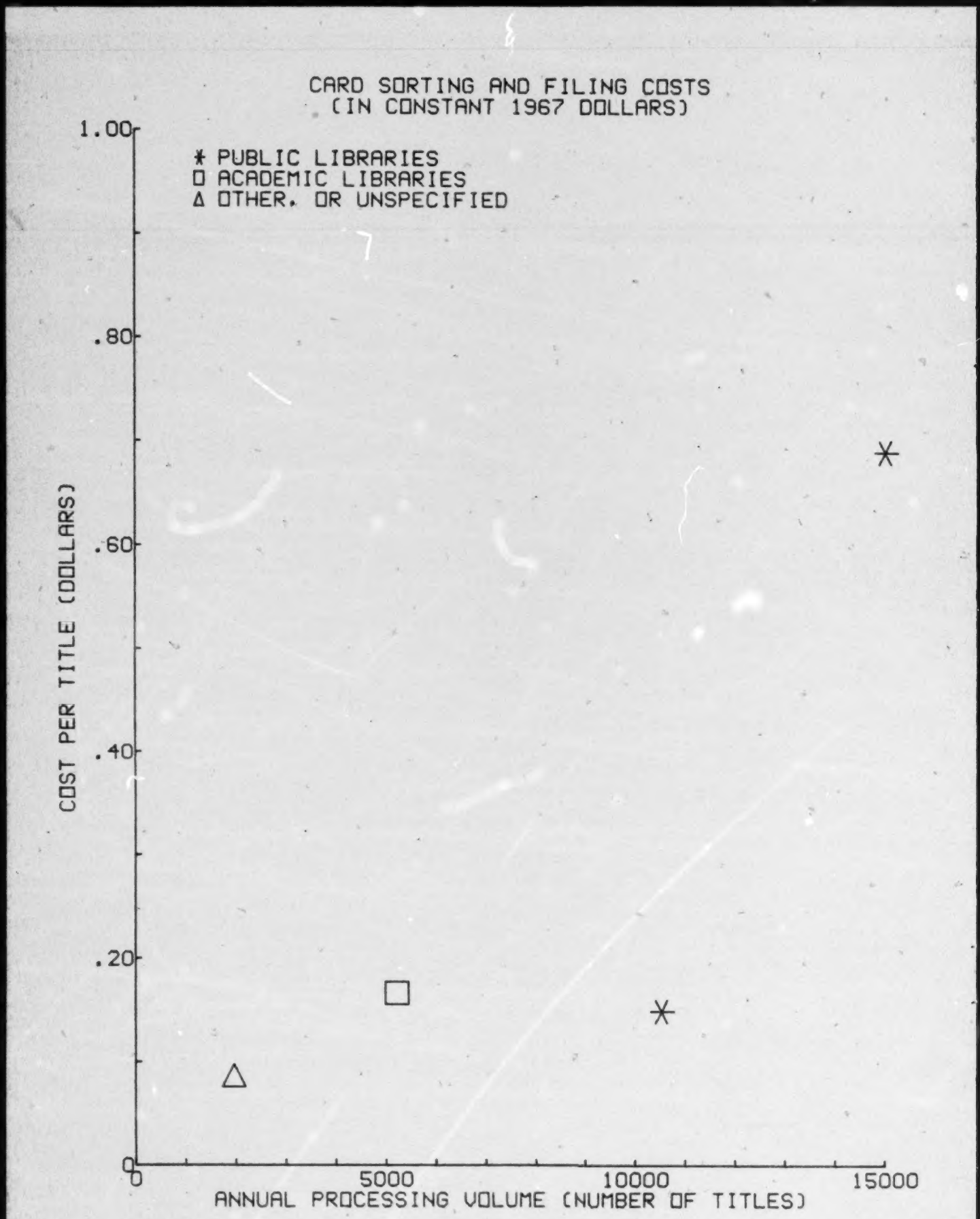

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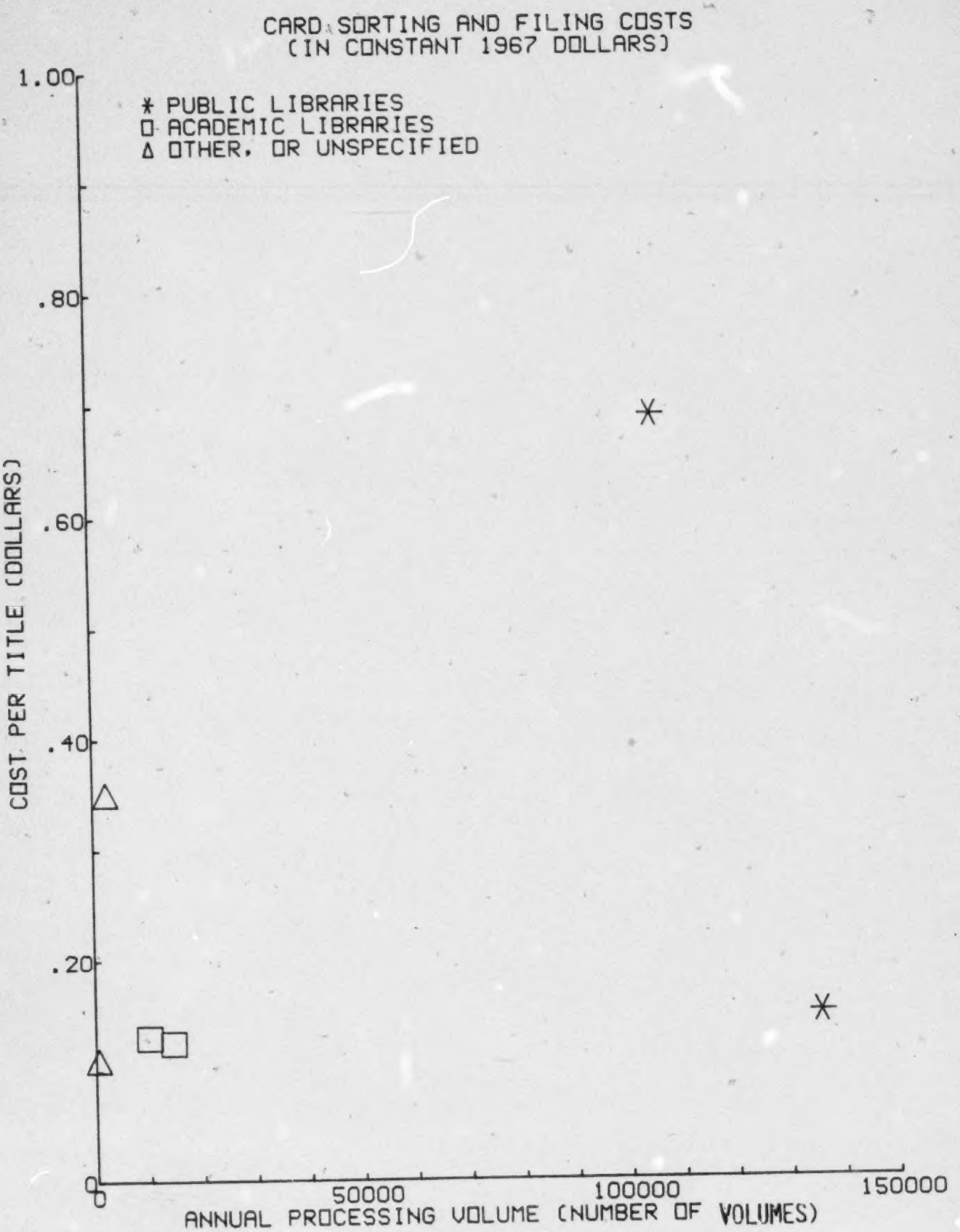

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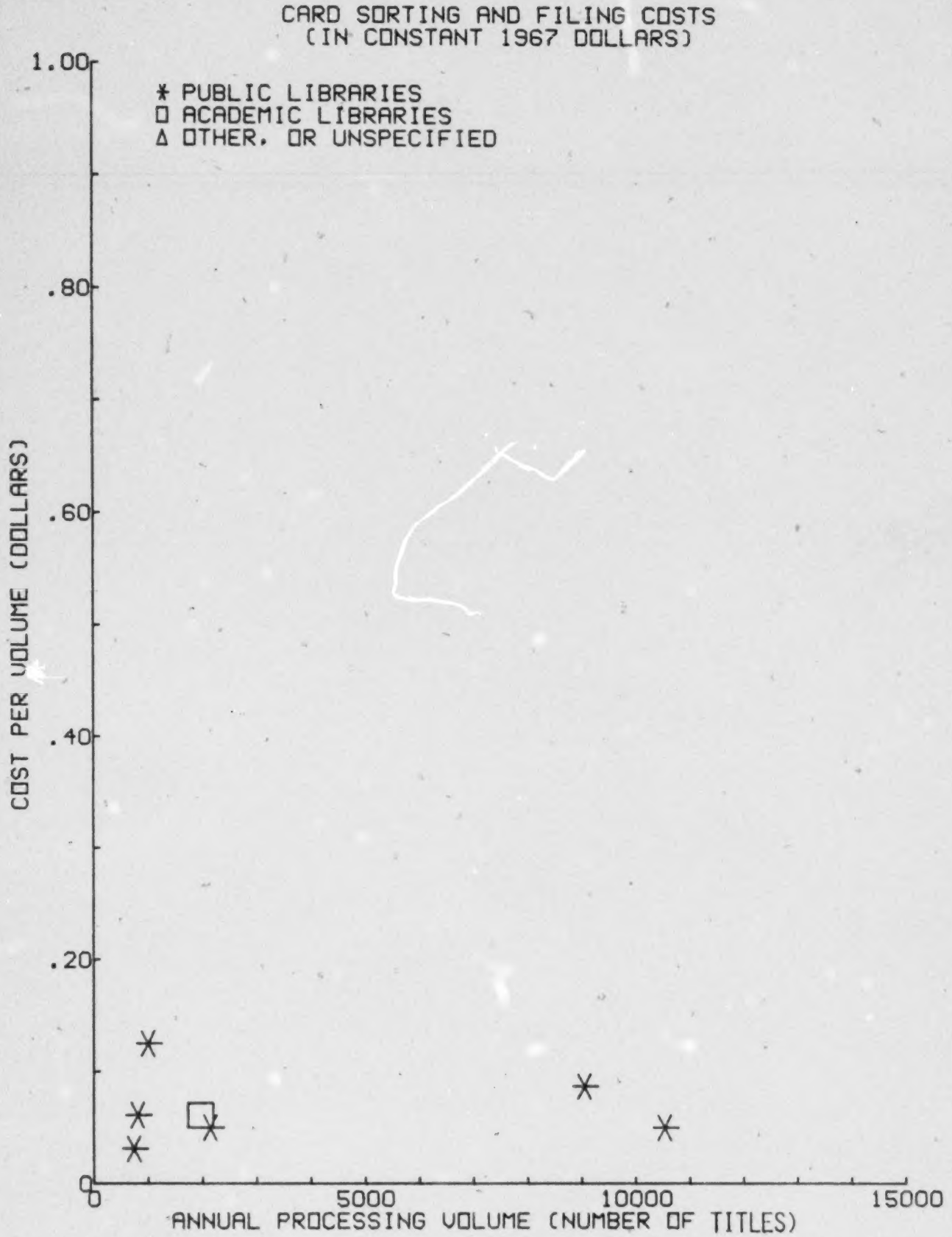

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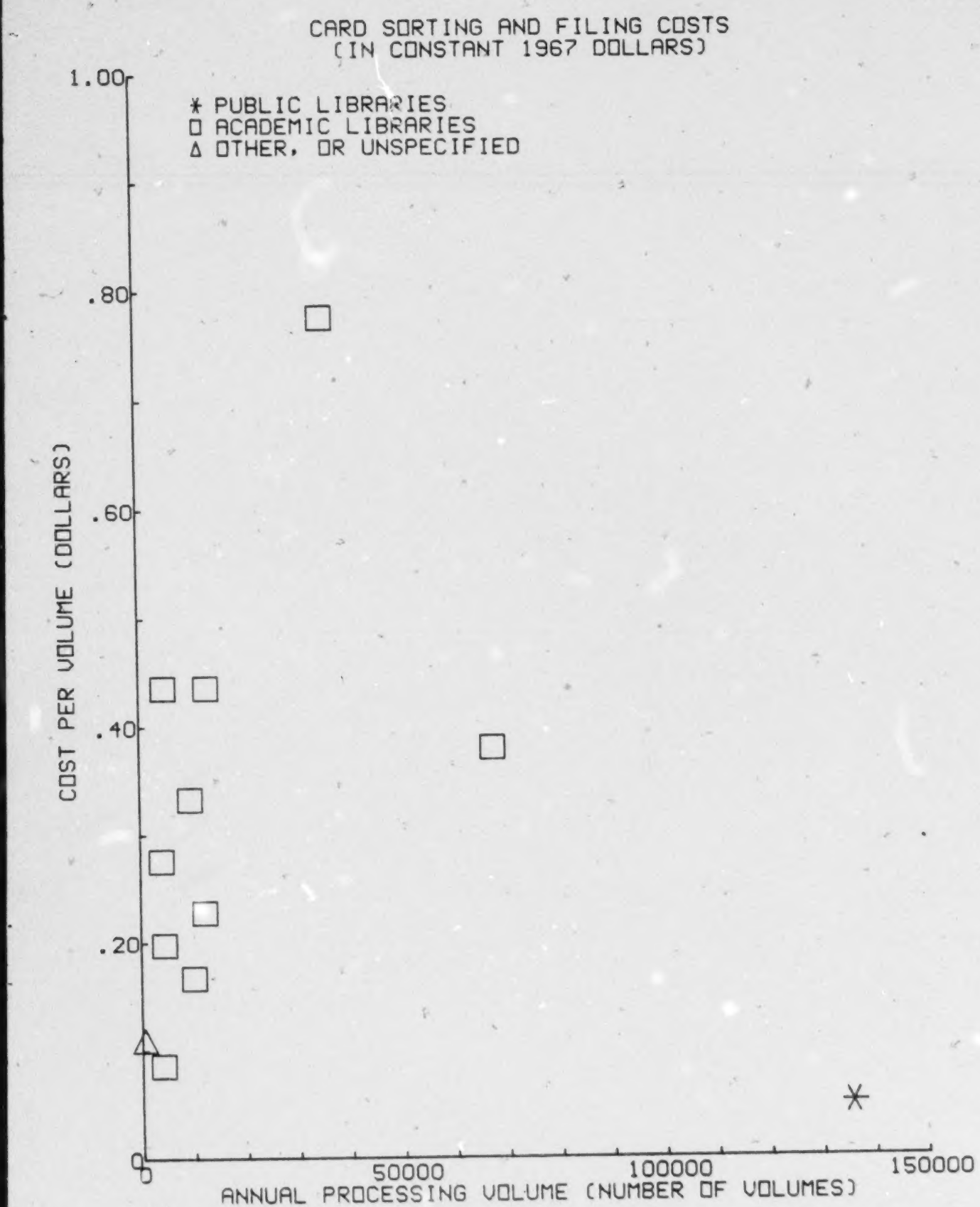

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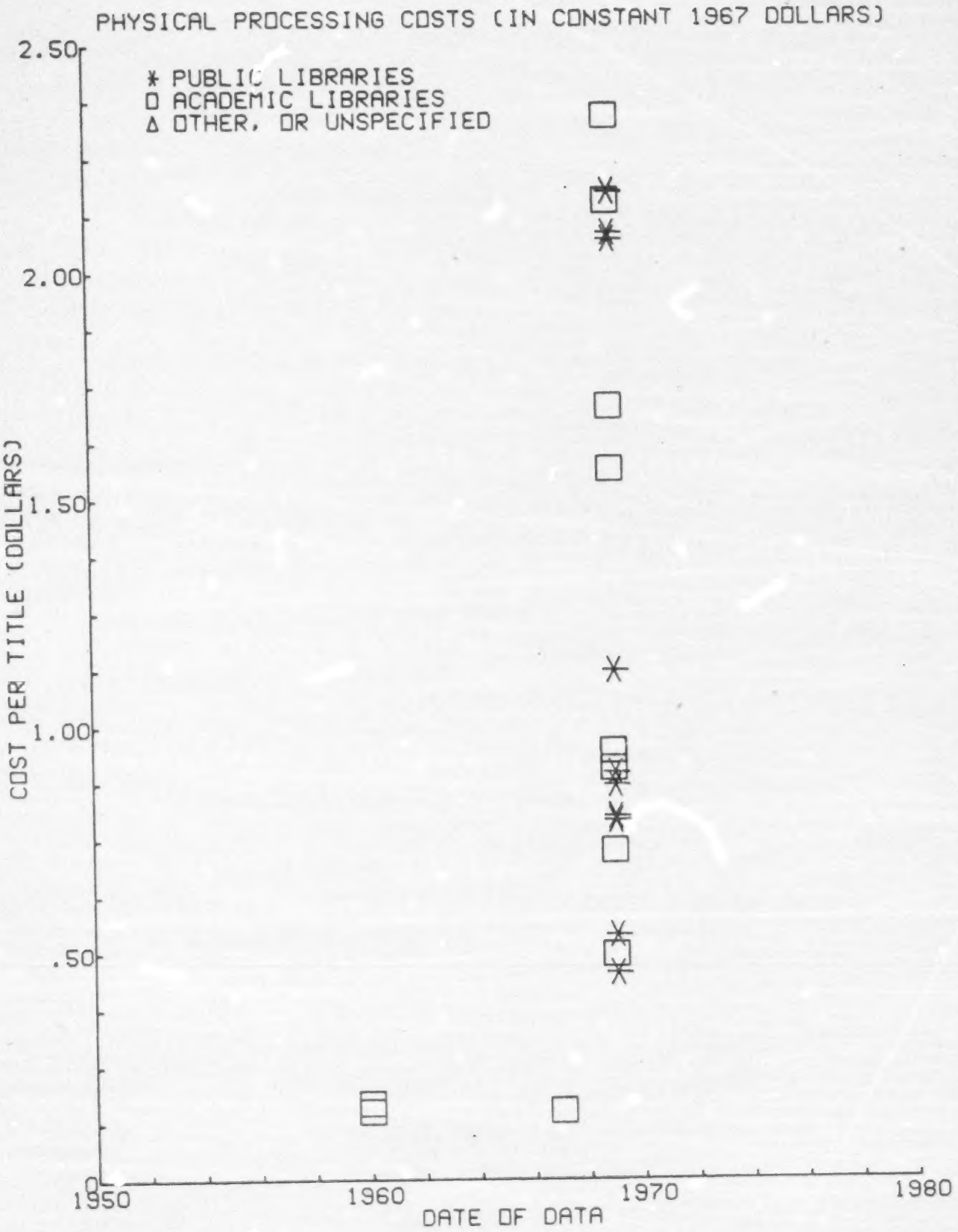

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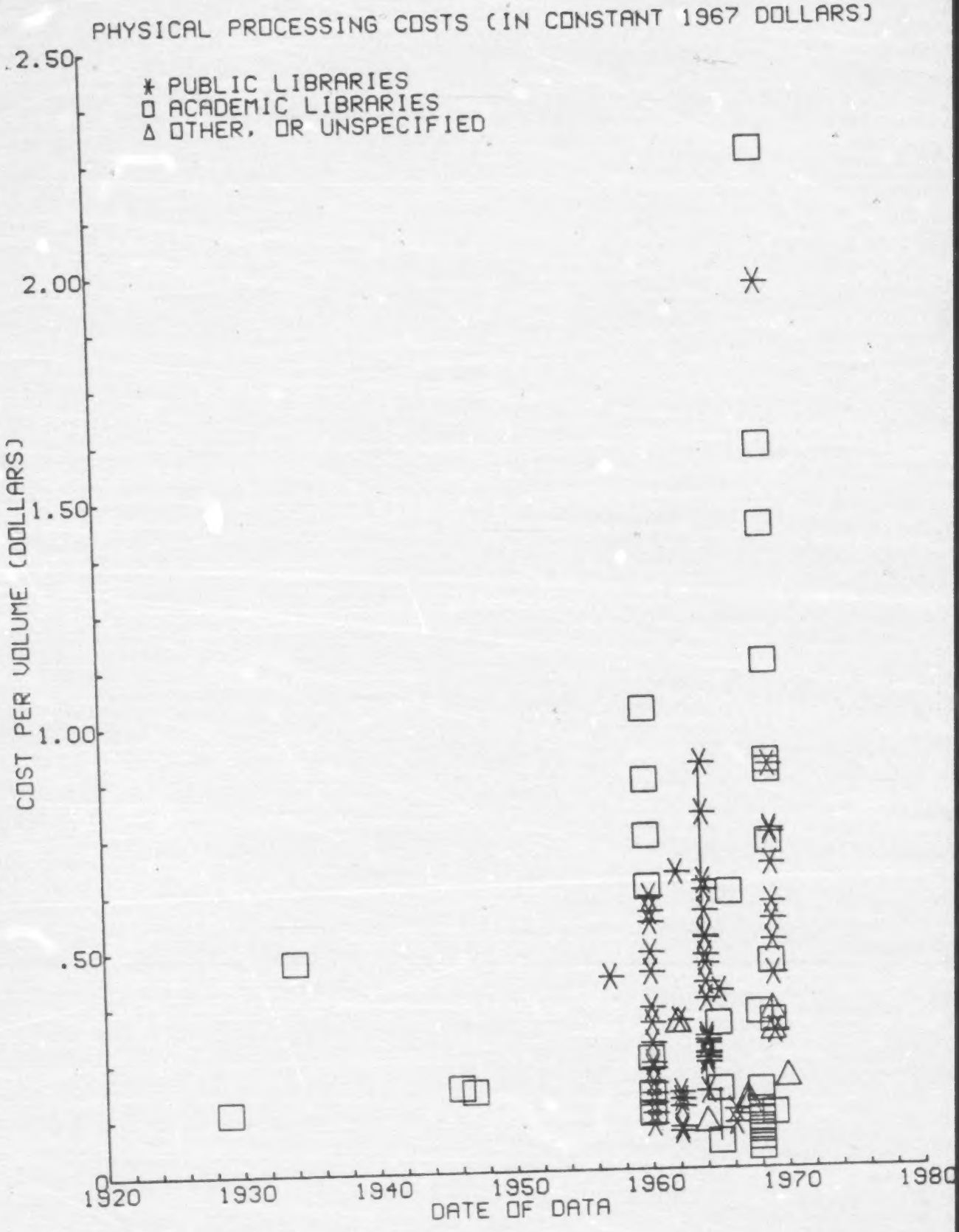

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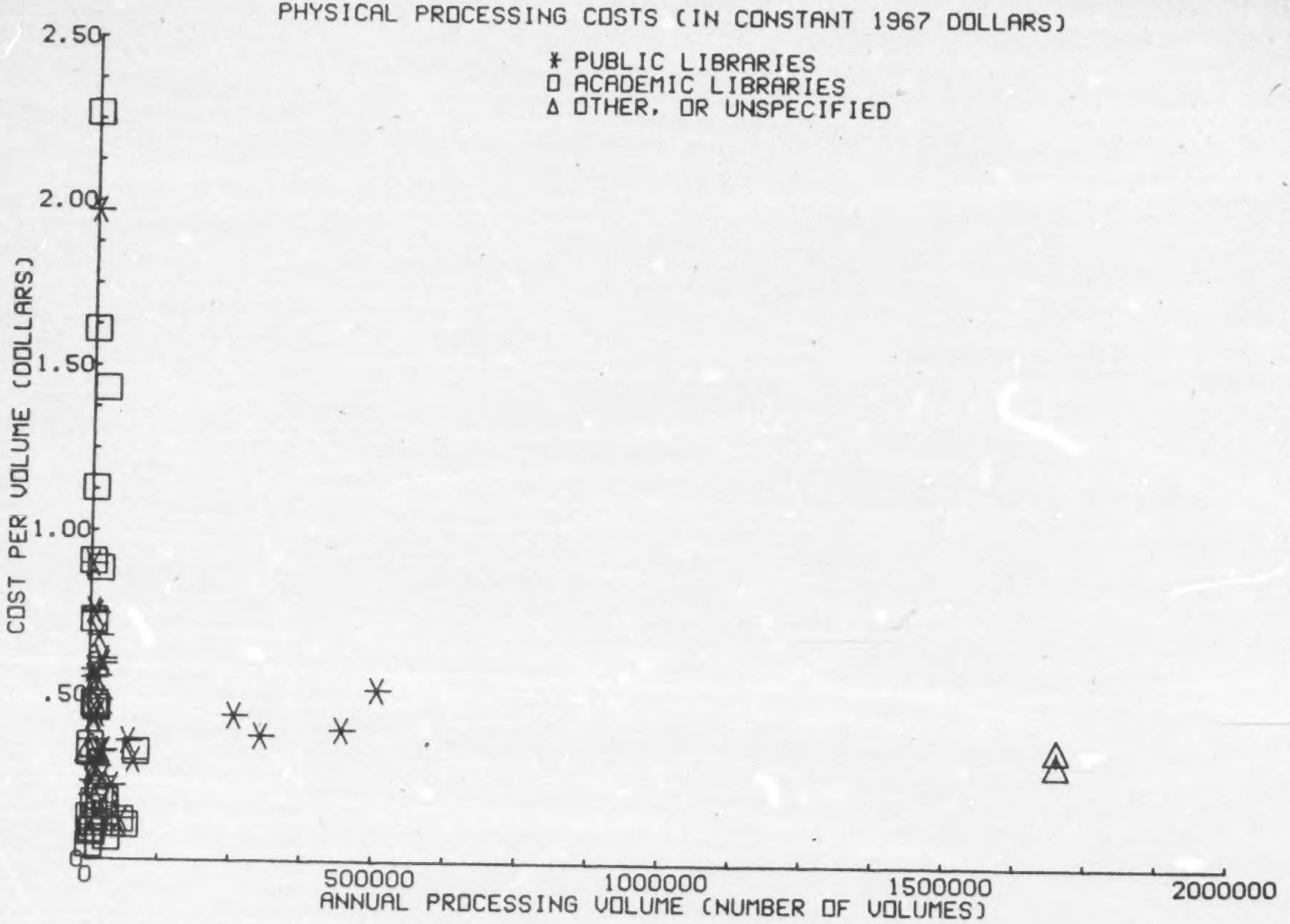

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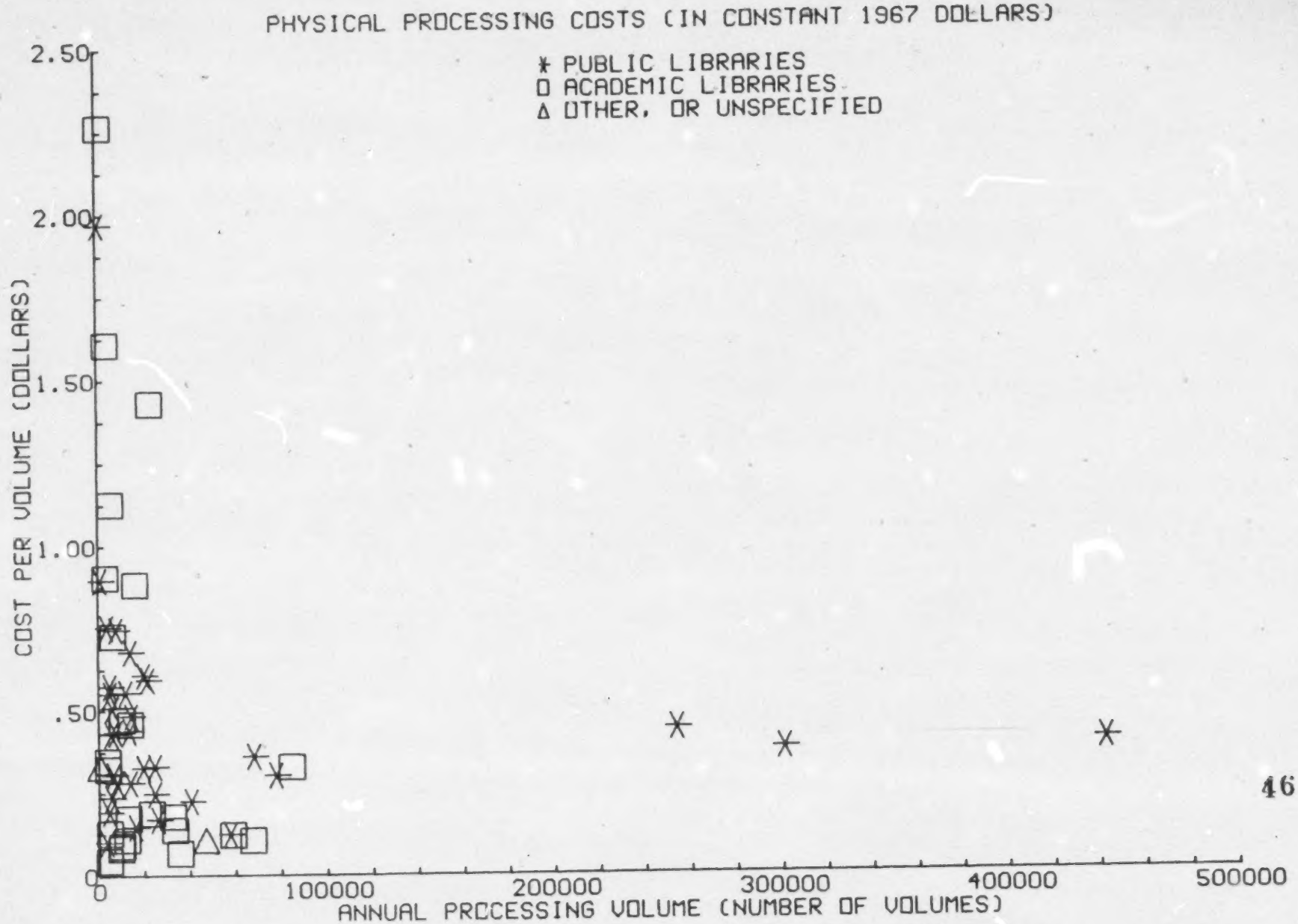

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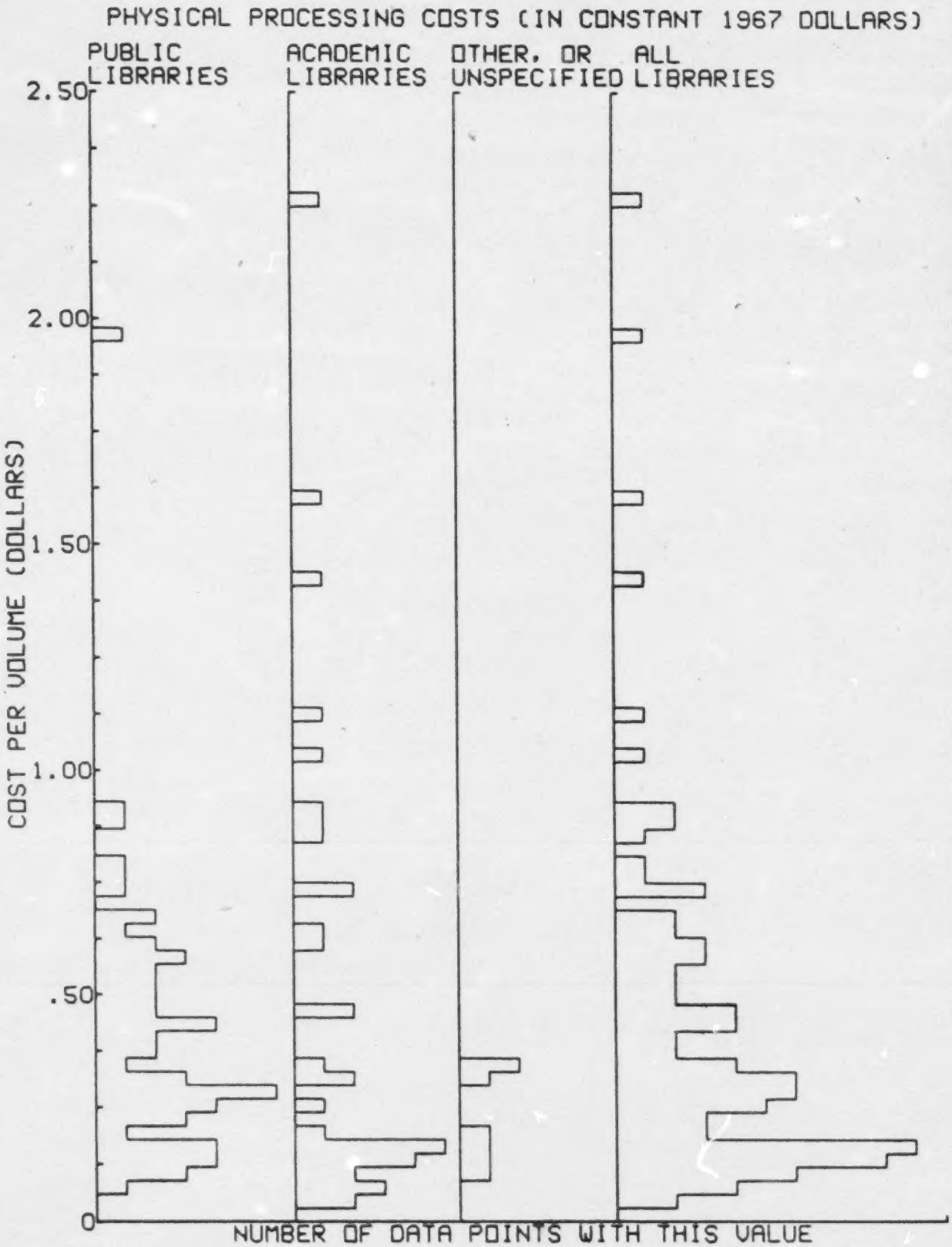

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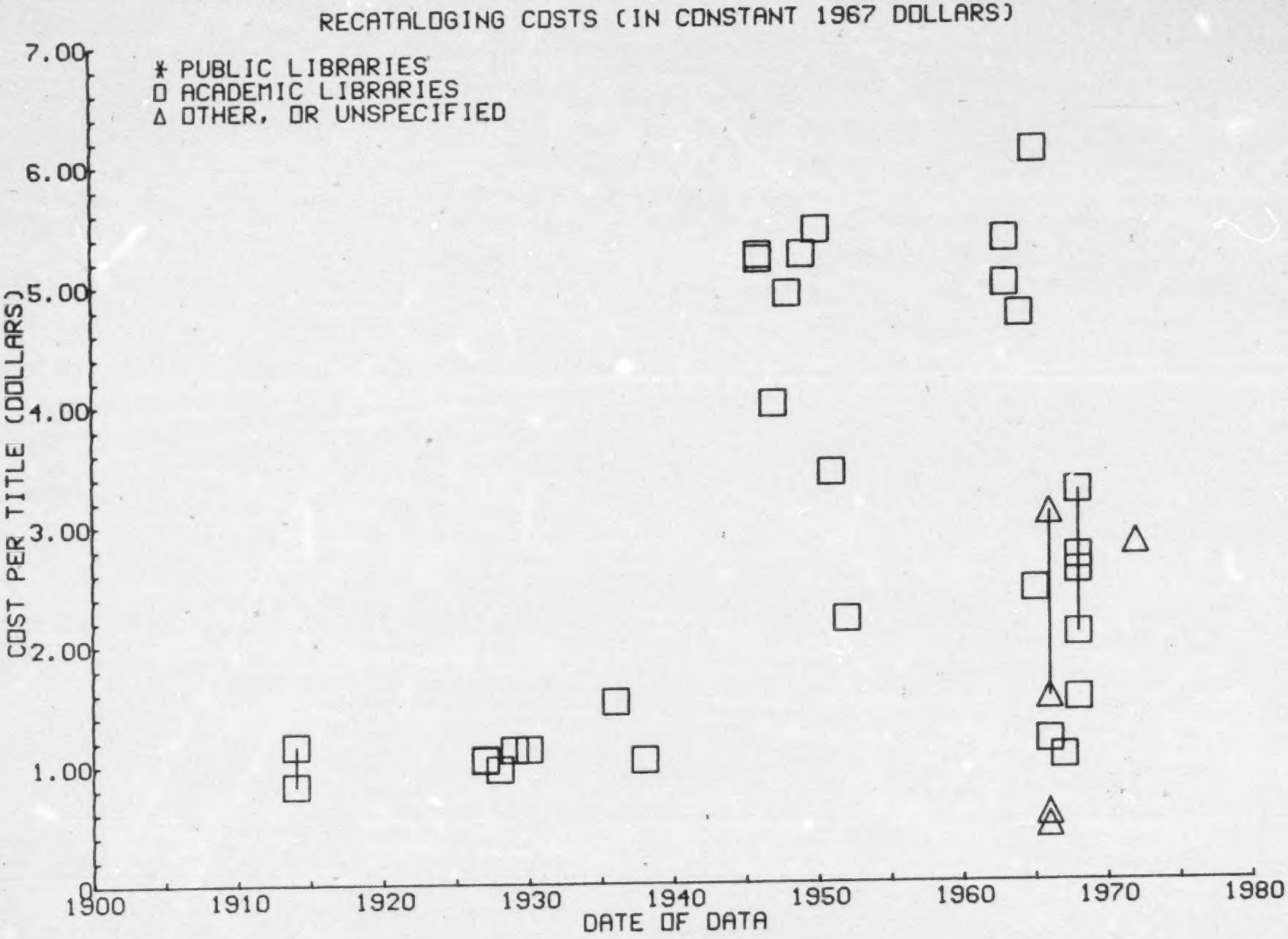

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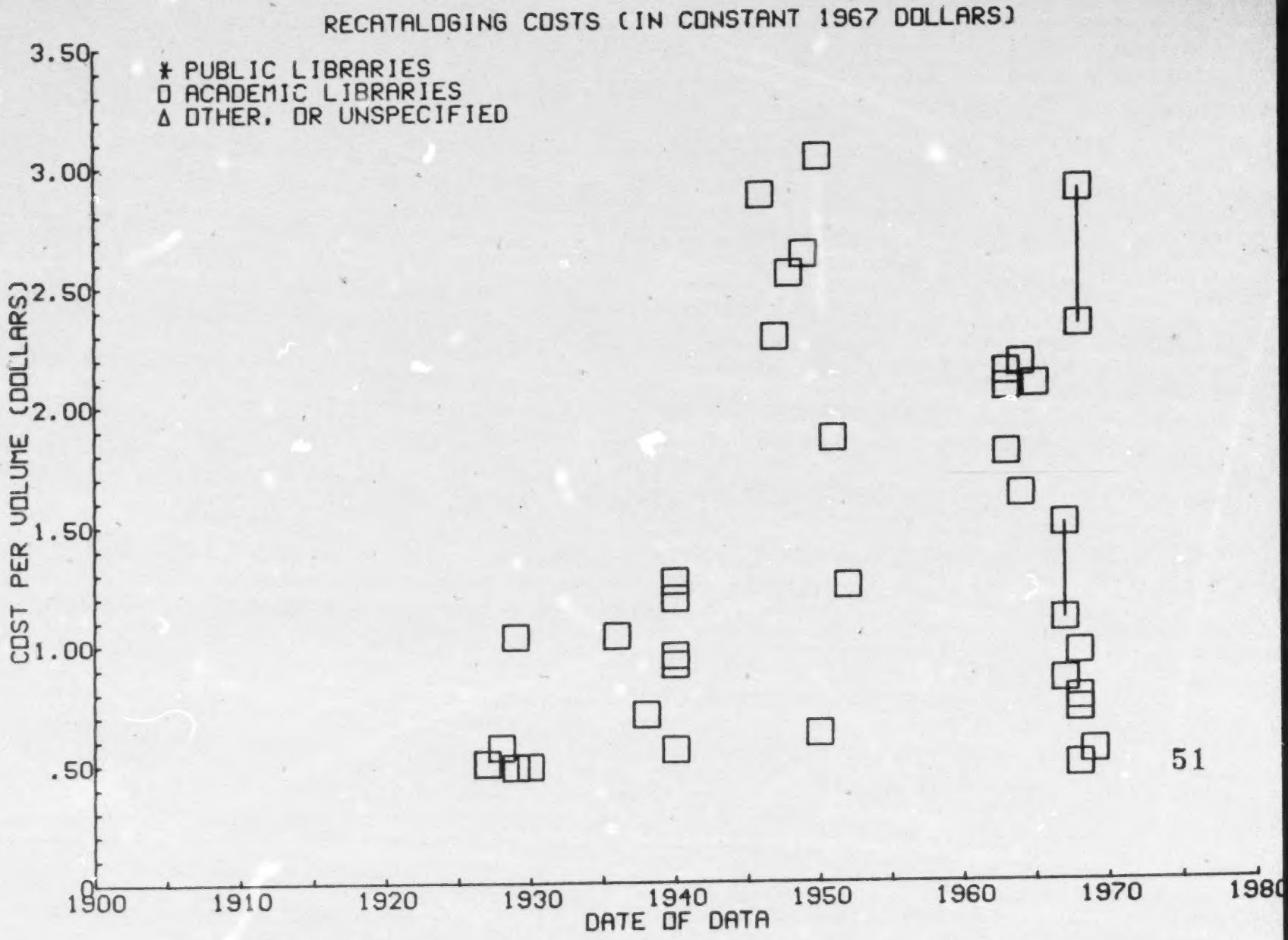

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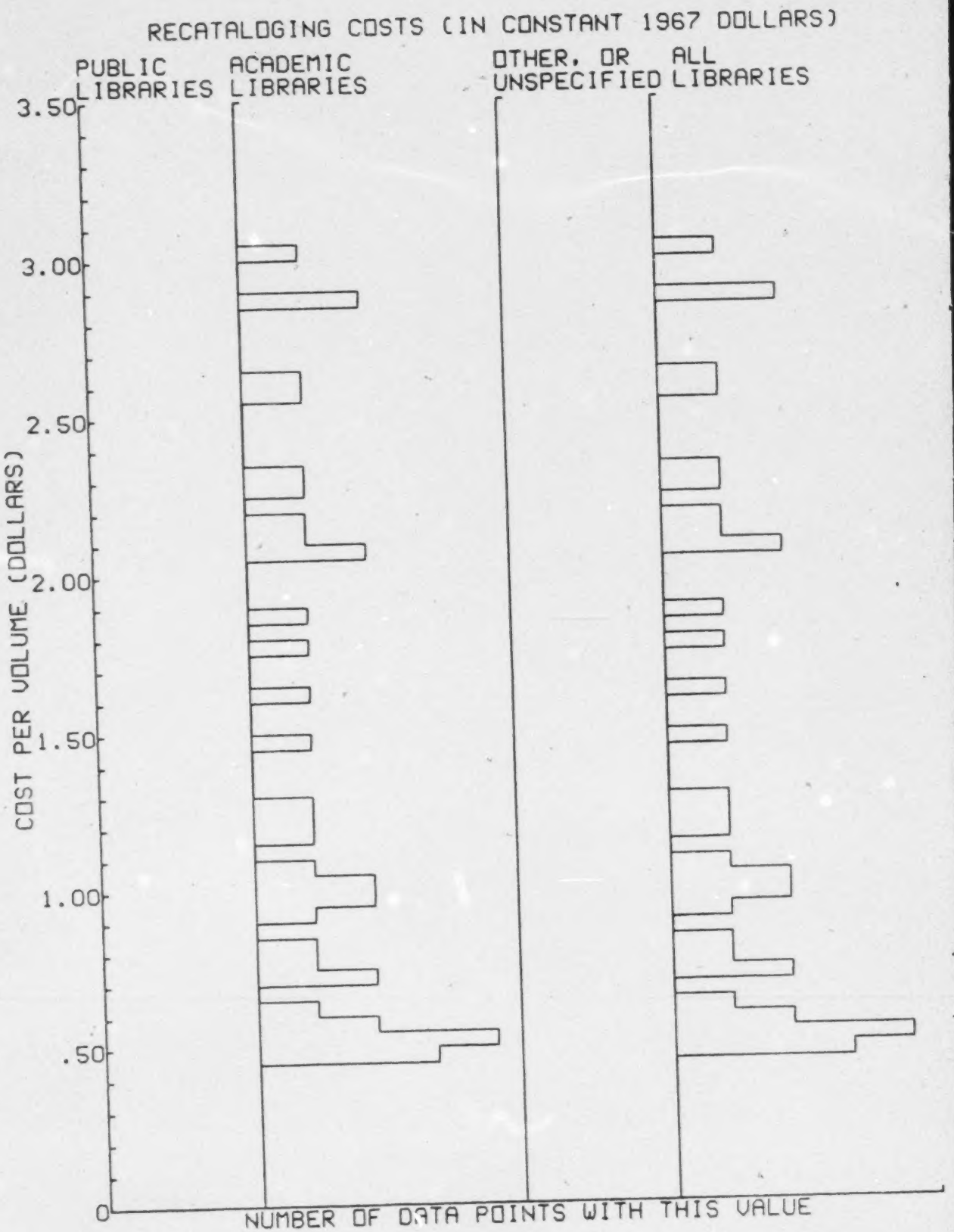

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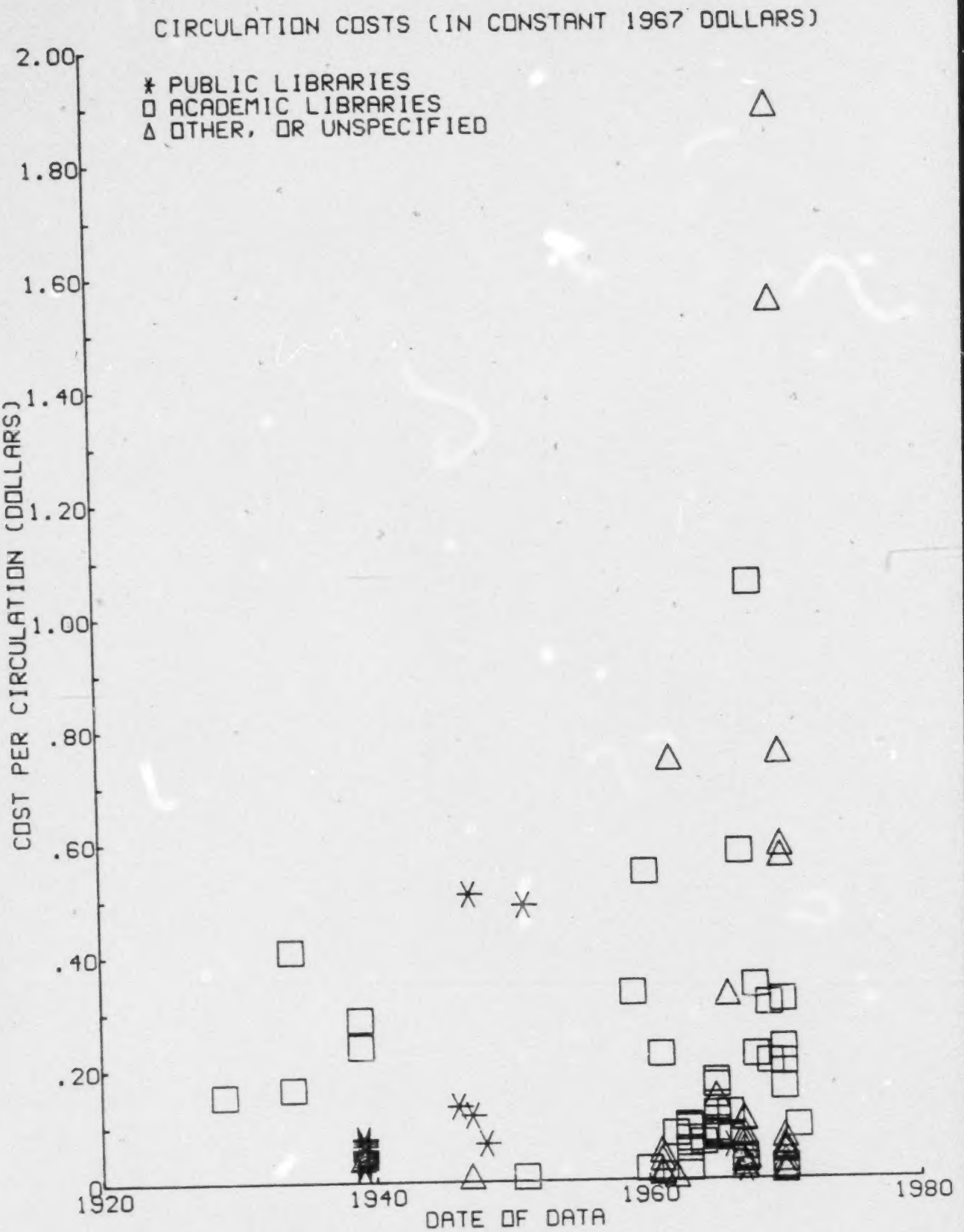

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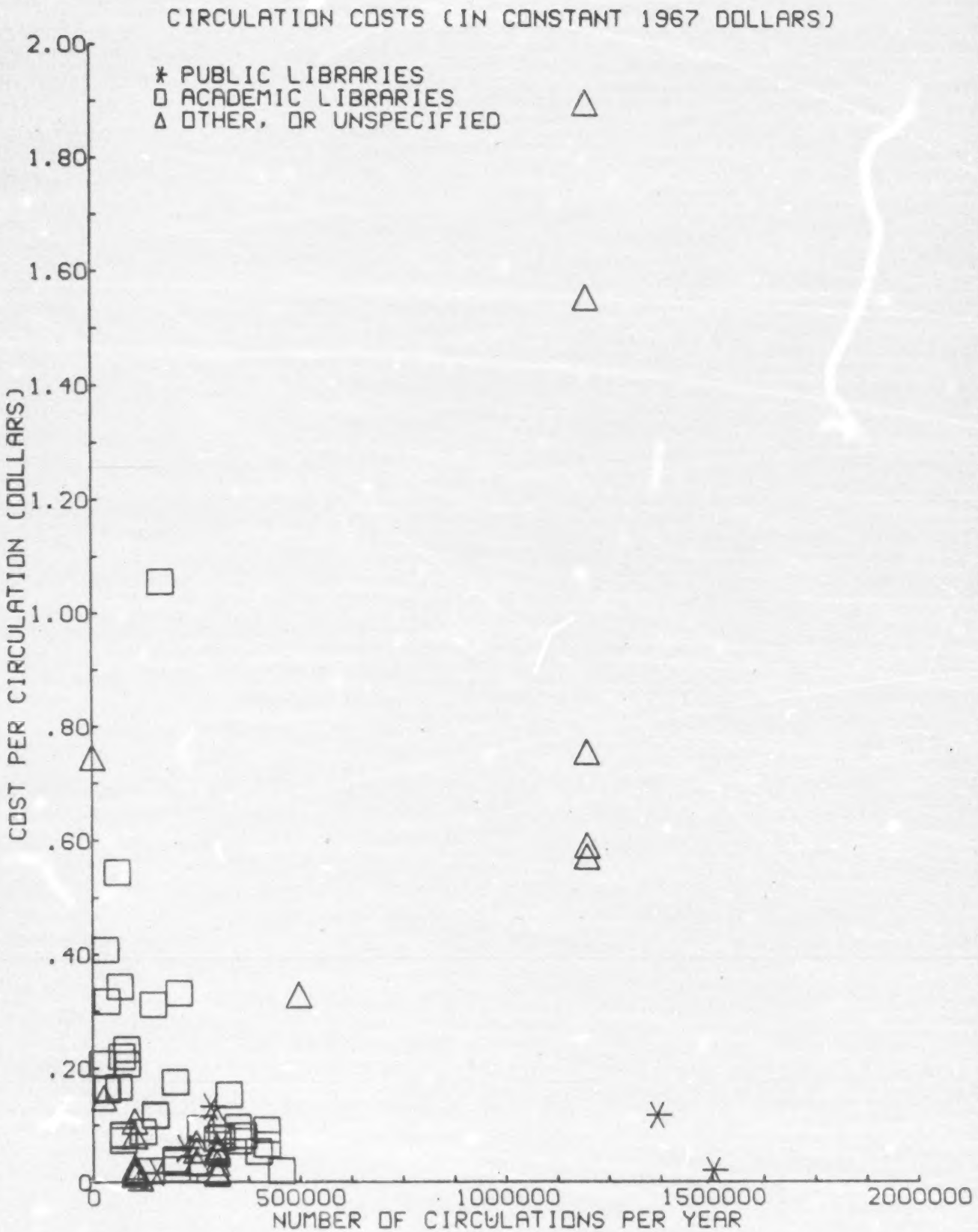

Figure 42. By Annual Circulation Volume - per Circulation

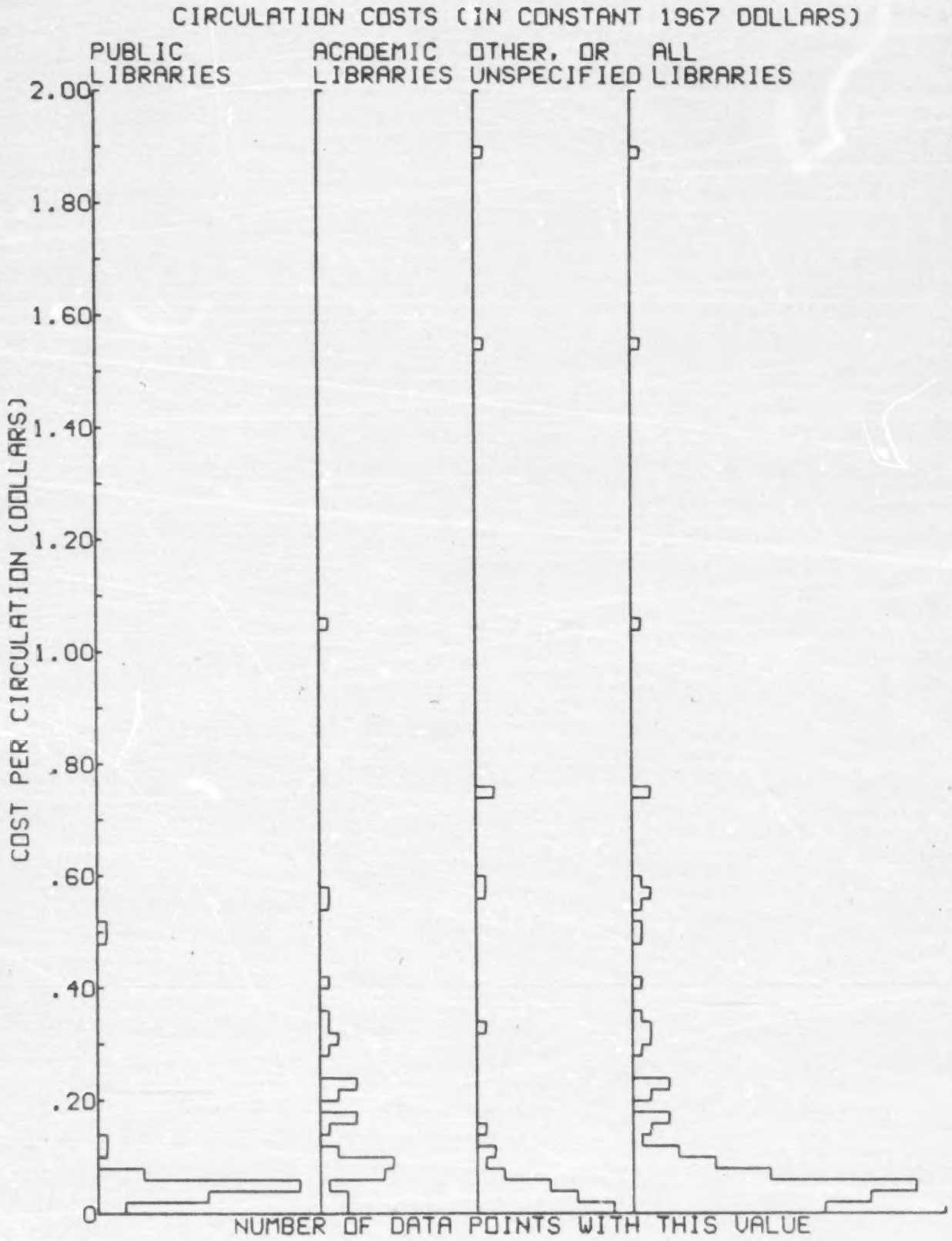

Figure 43. By Type of Library - per Circulation

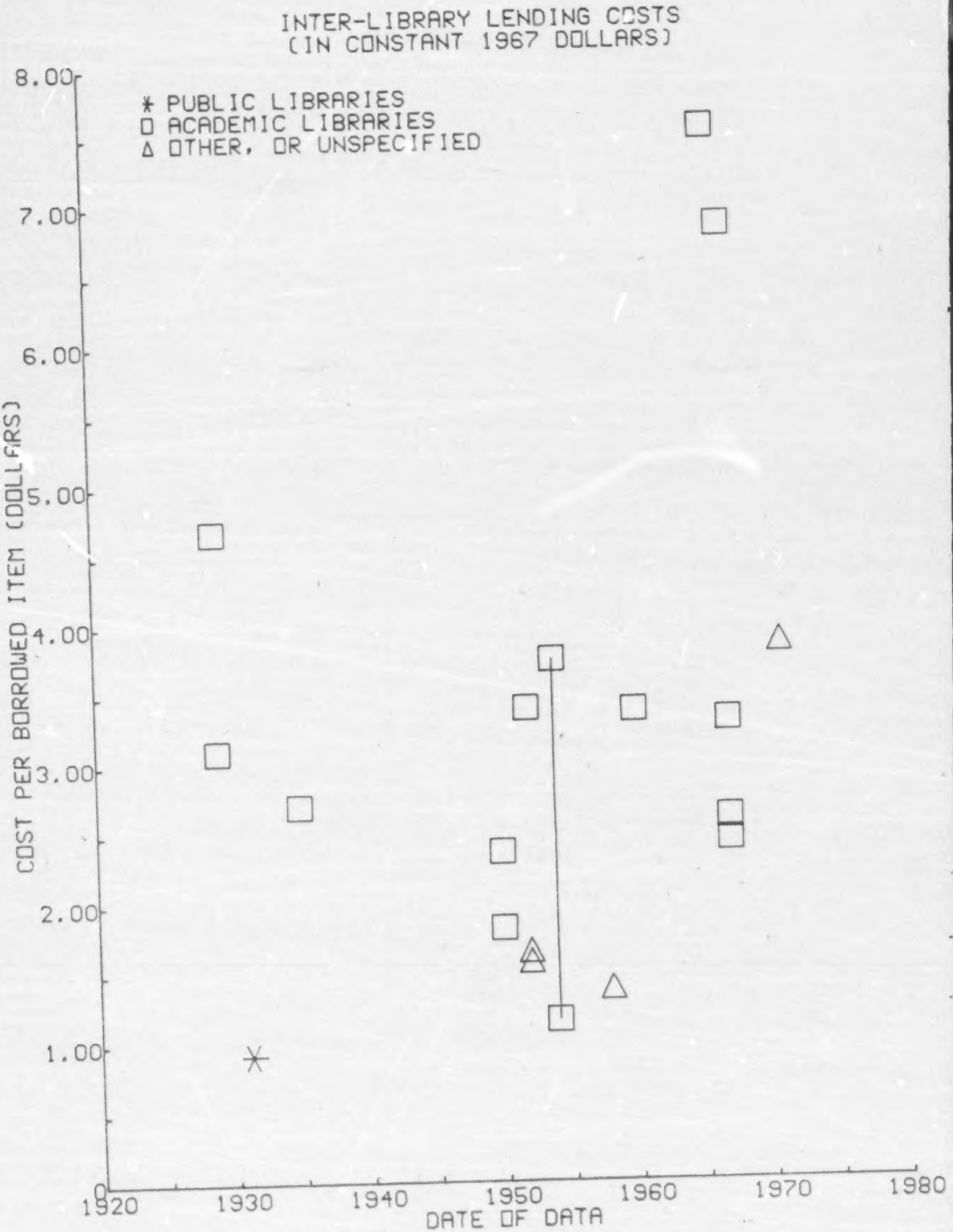

Figure 44. By Date - per Borrowed Item

Figure 45. By Date - per Loaned Item

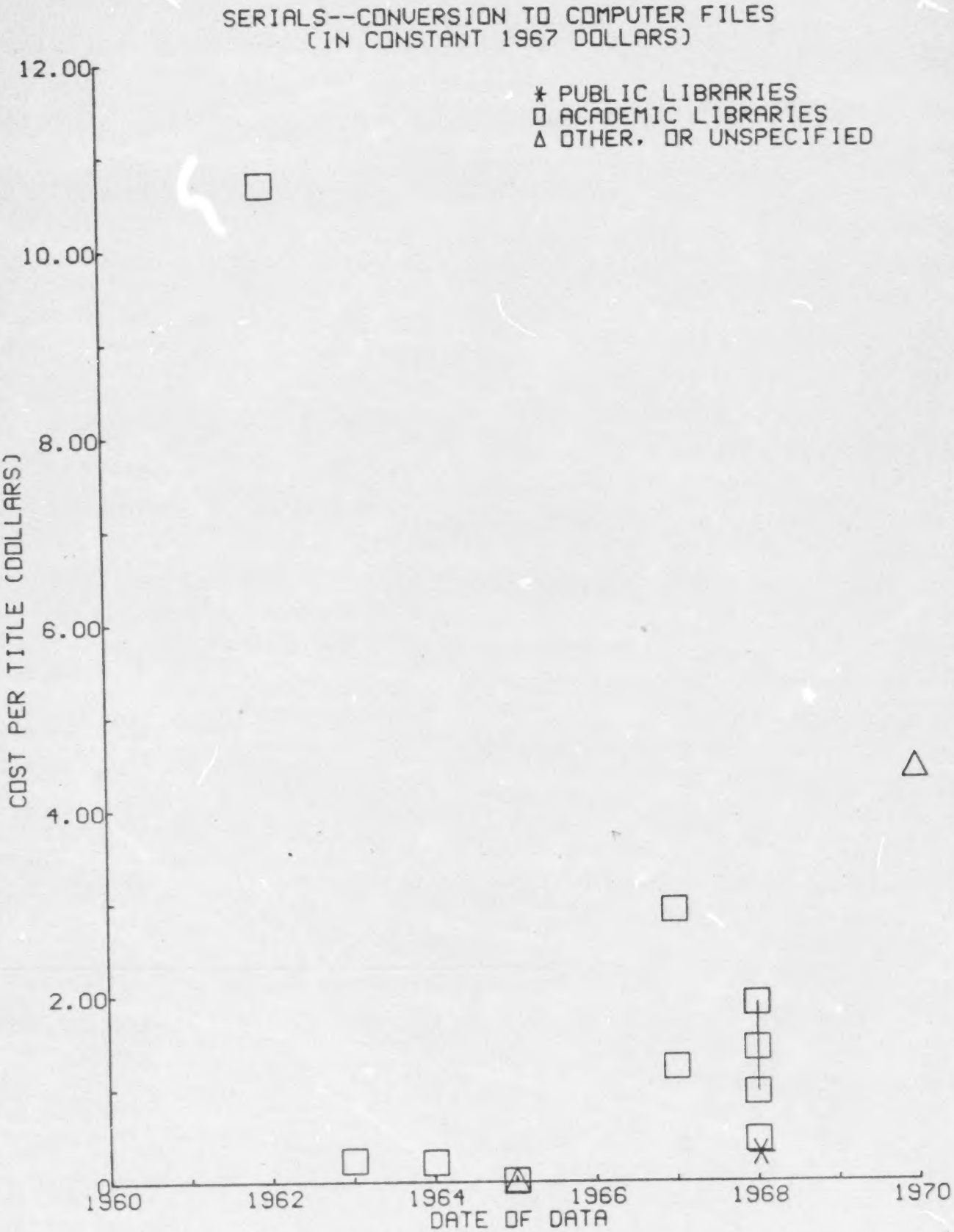

Figure 46. Conversion to Machine Bibliographic Records - by Date - per Title

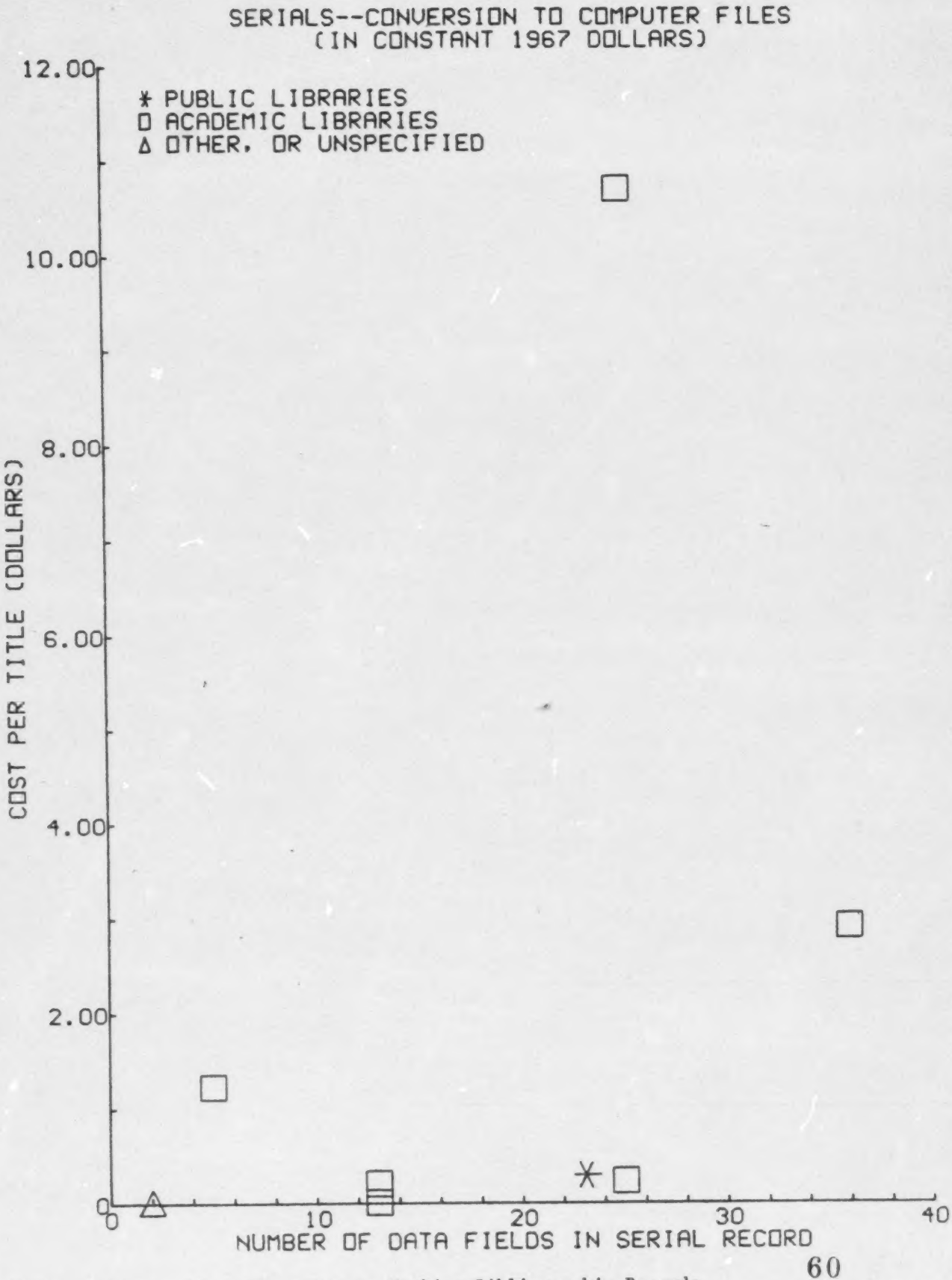

Figure 47. Conversion to Machine Bibliographic Records
- by Number of Data Fields - per Title

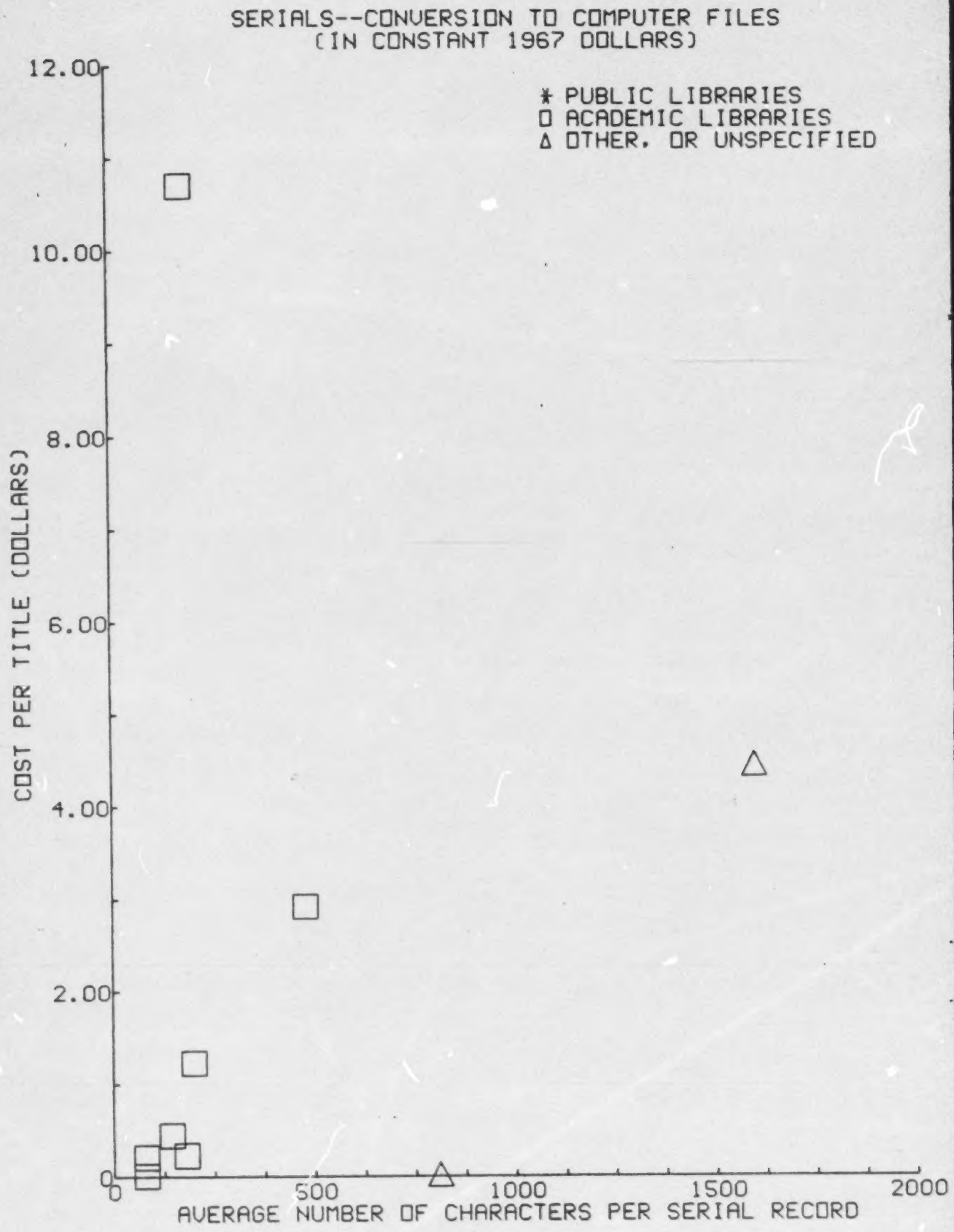

Figure 48. Conversion to Machine Bibliographic Records - by Number of Characters per Serial Record - per Title

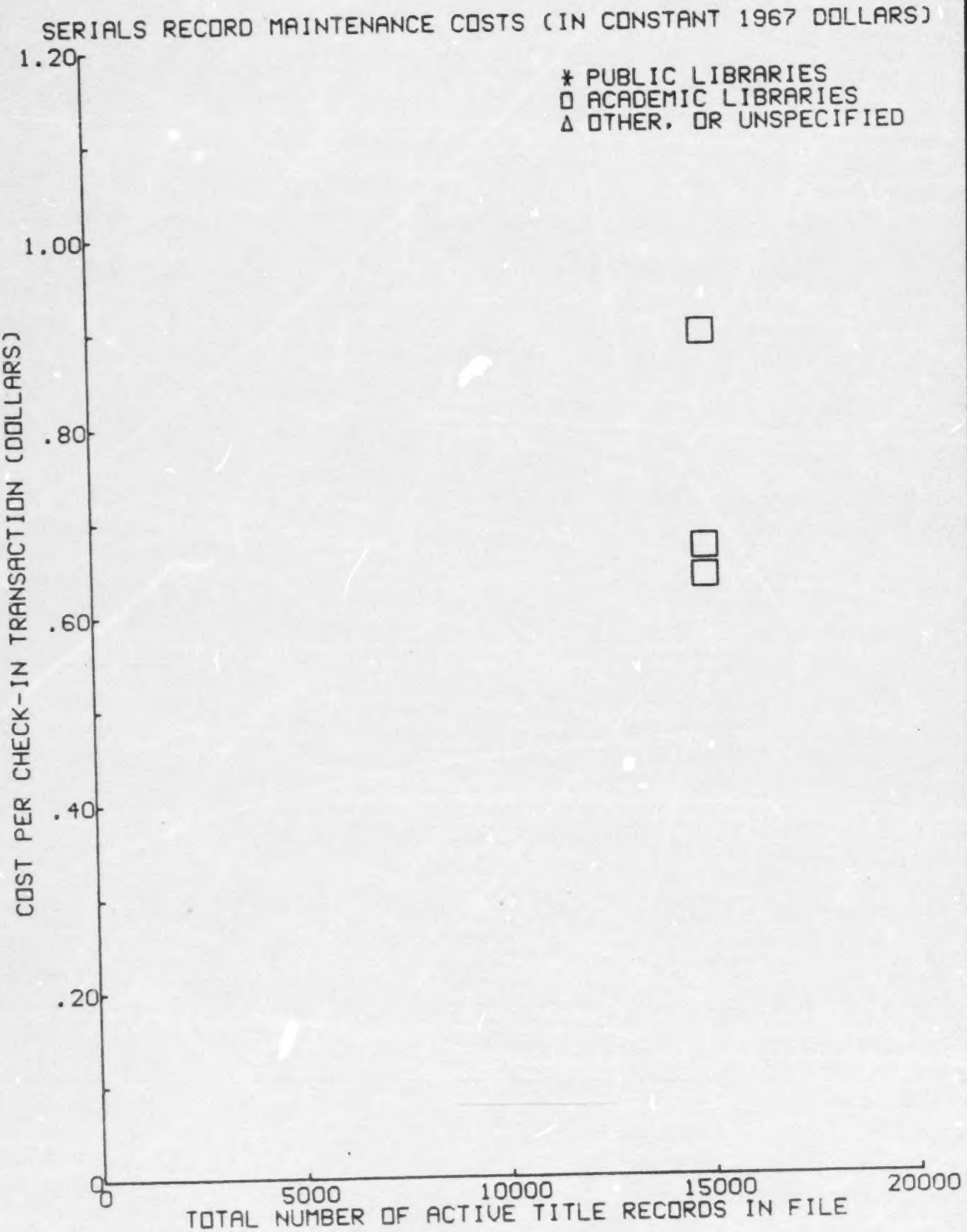

Figure 49. Record Maintenance Costs
- by Total Number of Active Serial Records in the File
- per Check-in Transaction

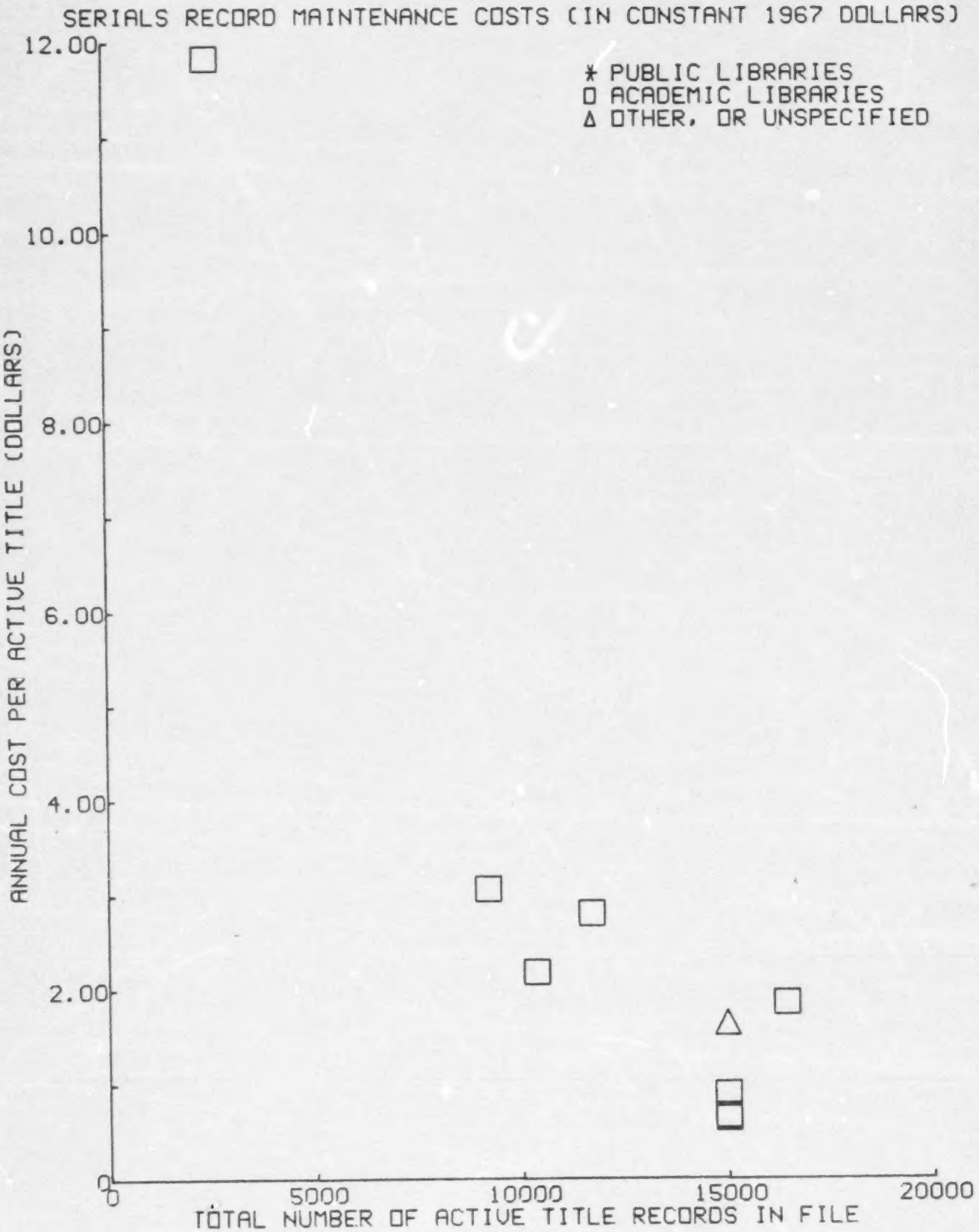

Figure 50. Record Maintenance Costs
- by Total Number of Active Serial Records in File
- per Annual Cost per Active Title

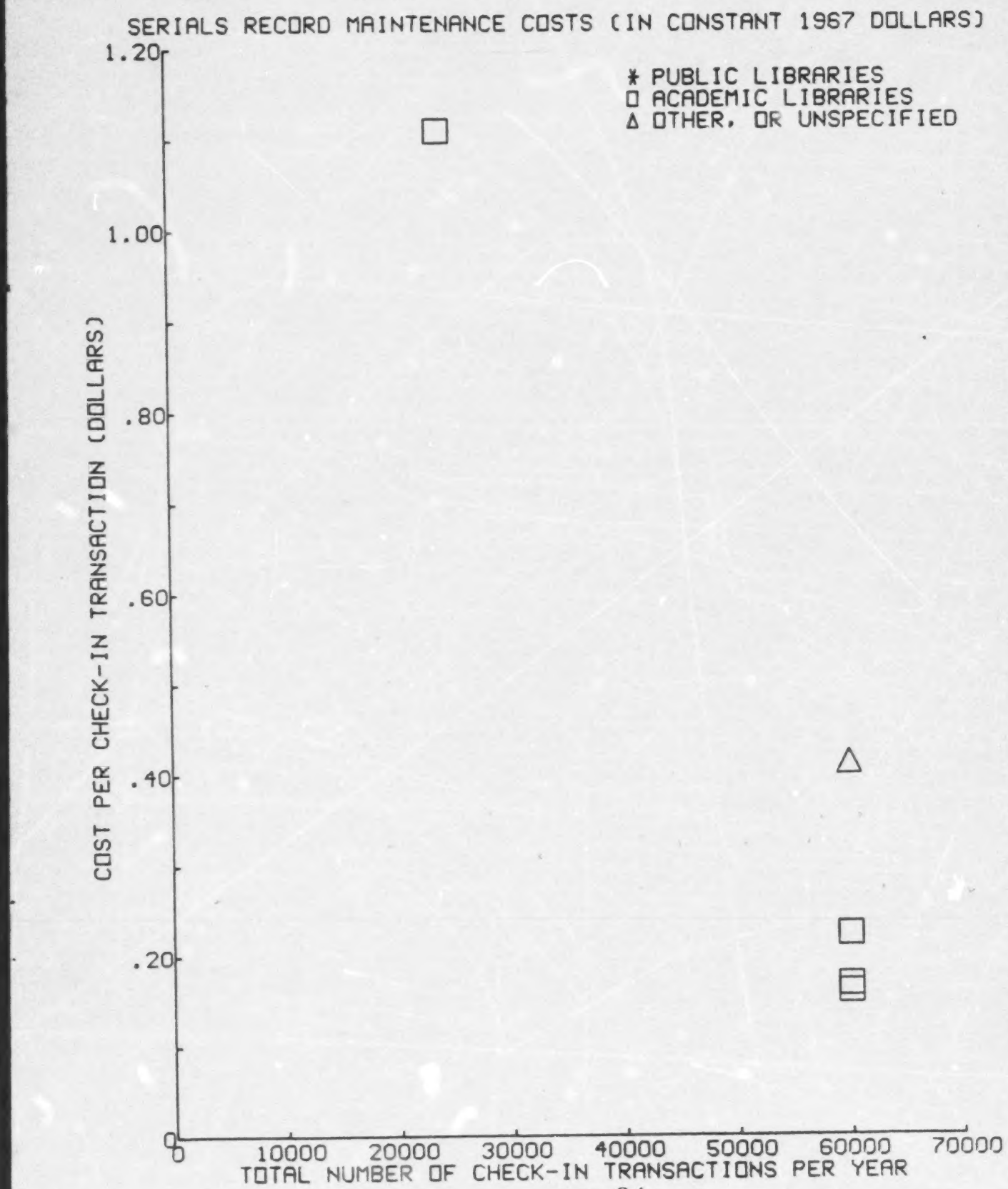

Figure 51. Record Maintenance Costs
- by Annual Number of Check-in Transactions
- per Check-in Transaction

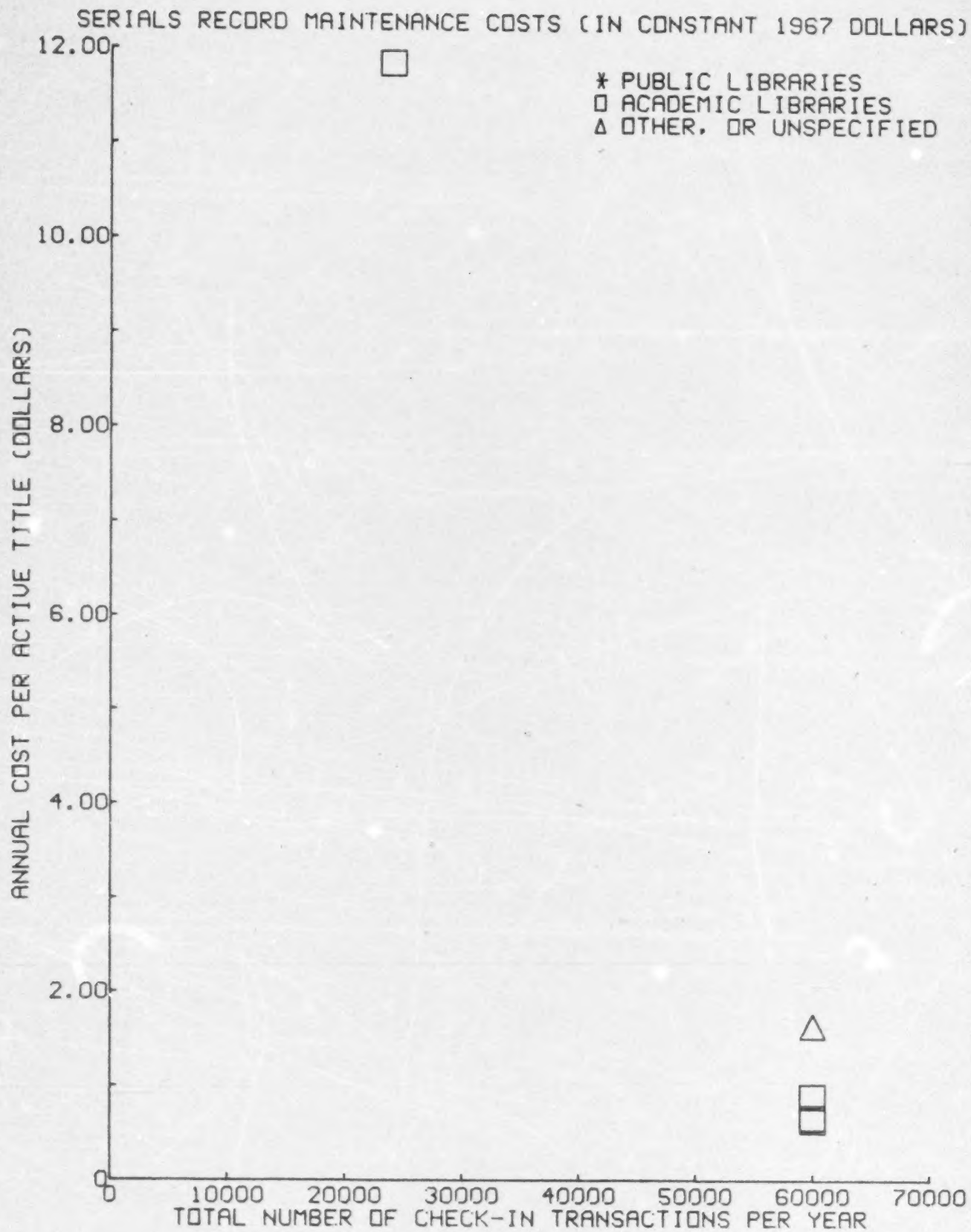

Figure 52. Record Maintenance Costs
- by Annual Number of Check-in Transactions
- per Annual Cost per Active Title

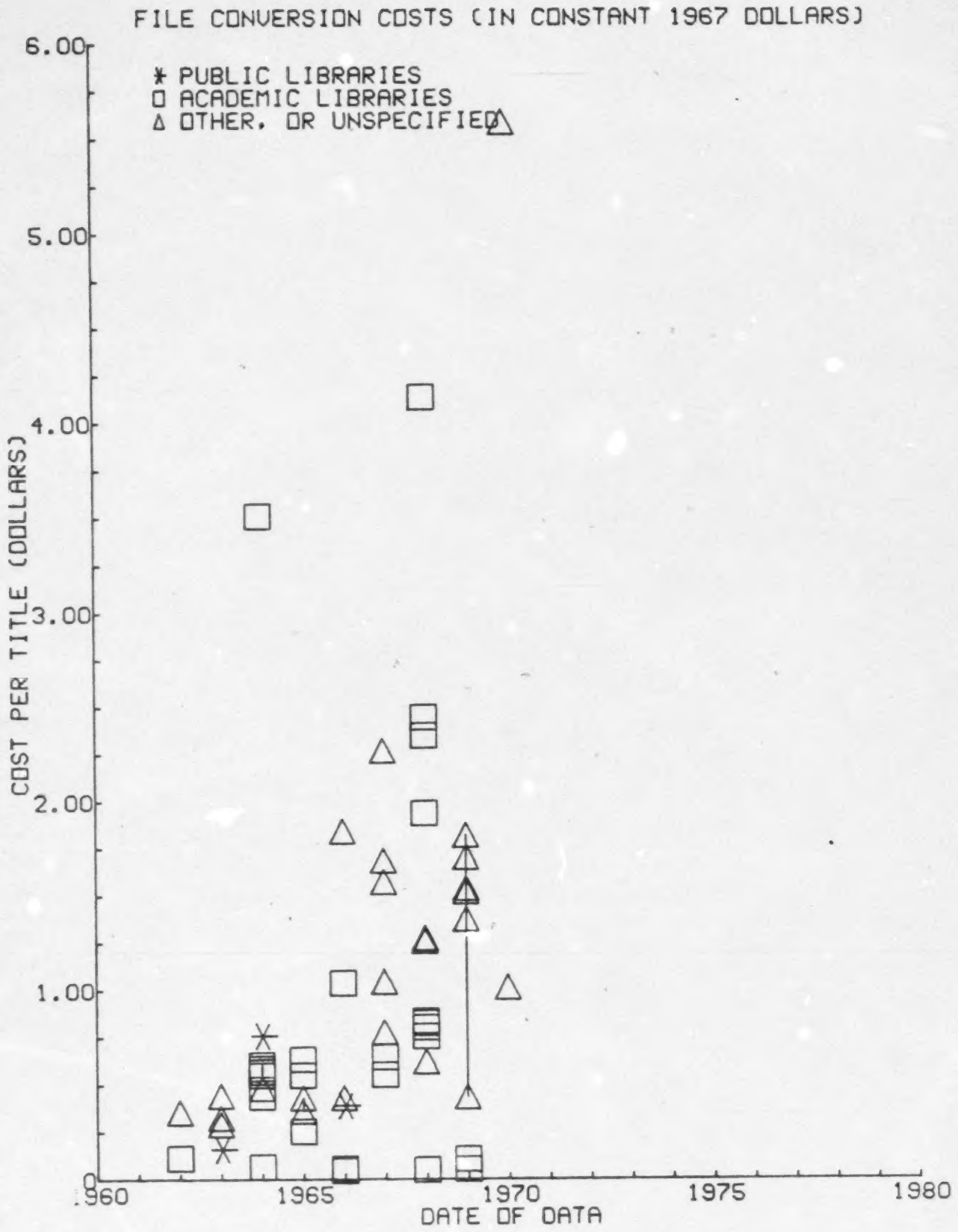

Figure 53. By Date - per Title

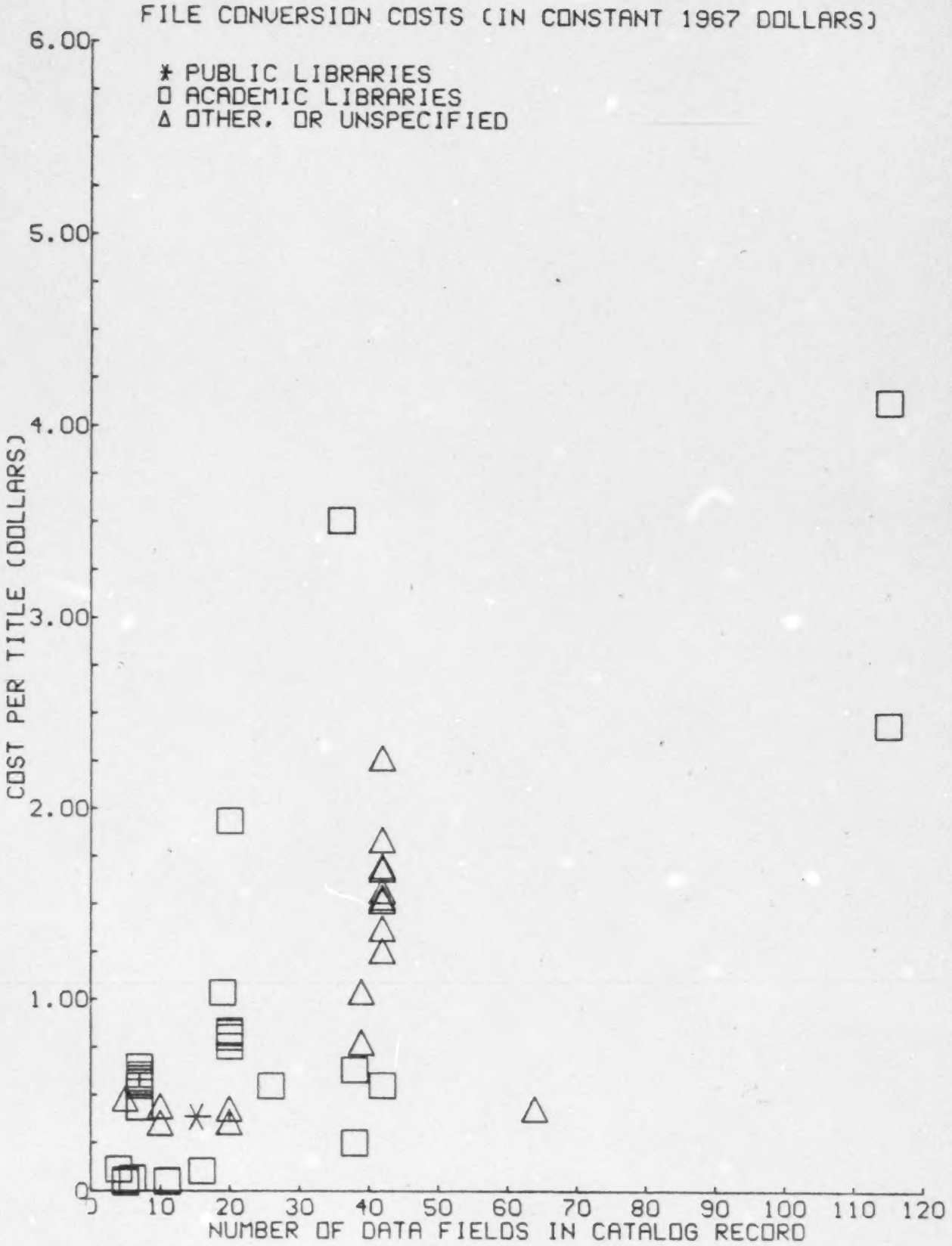

Figure 54. By Number of Data Fields - per Title (point plot)

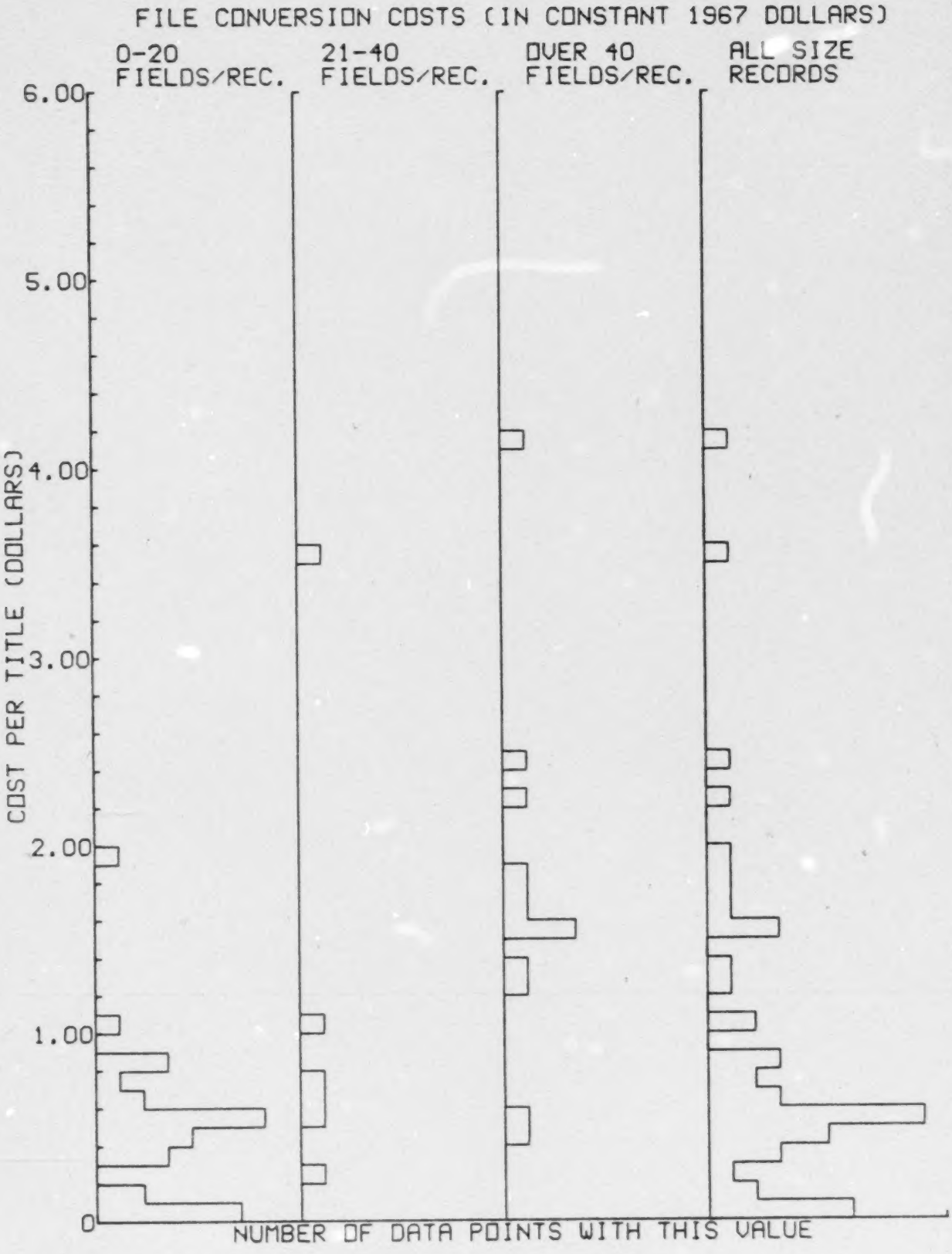

Figure 55. By Number of Data Fields - per Title (Histograms)

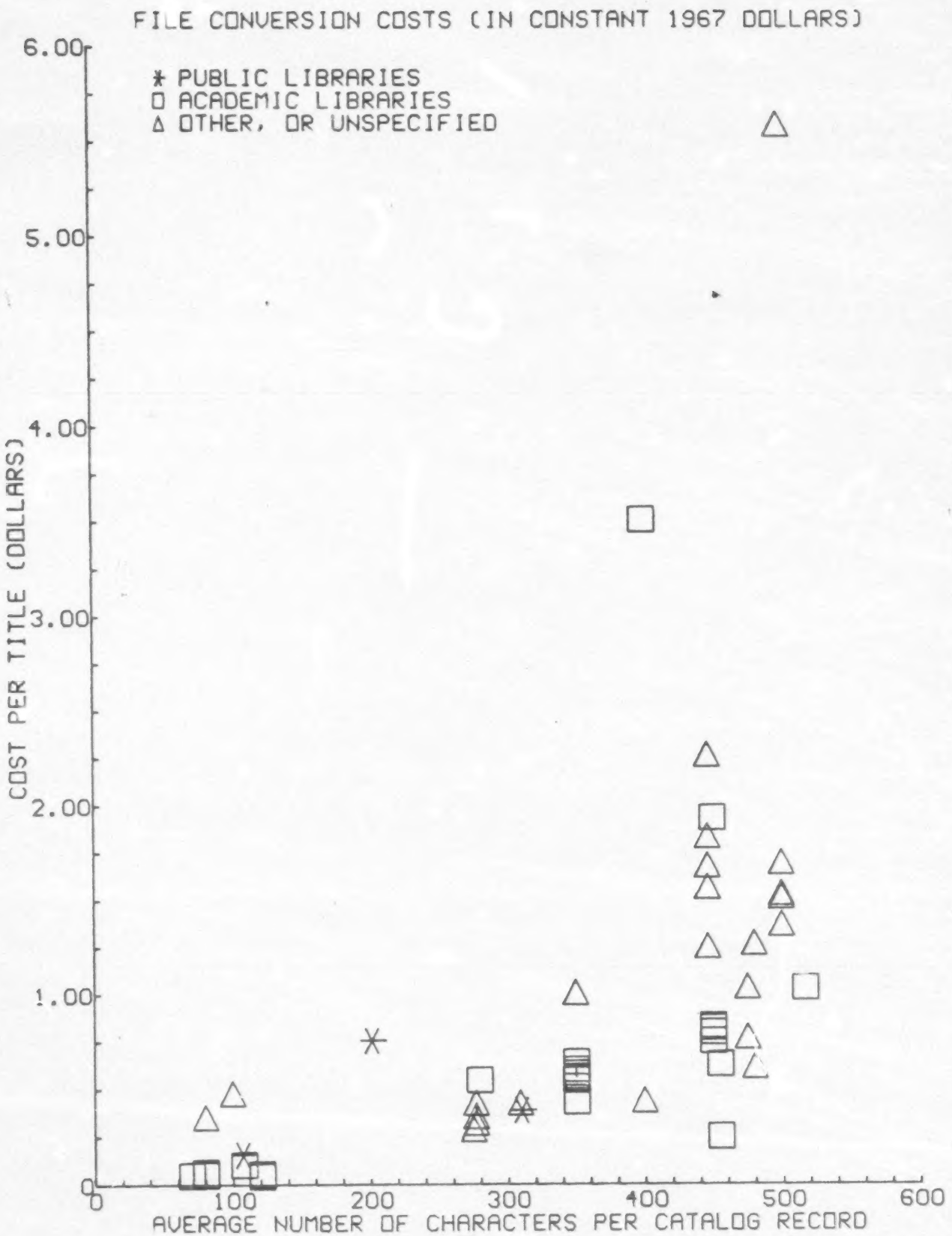

Figure 56. By Number of Characters per Catalog Record - per Title (Histograms)

Figure 57. By Number of Characters per Catalog Record - Per Title (point plot)

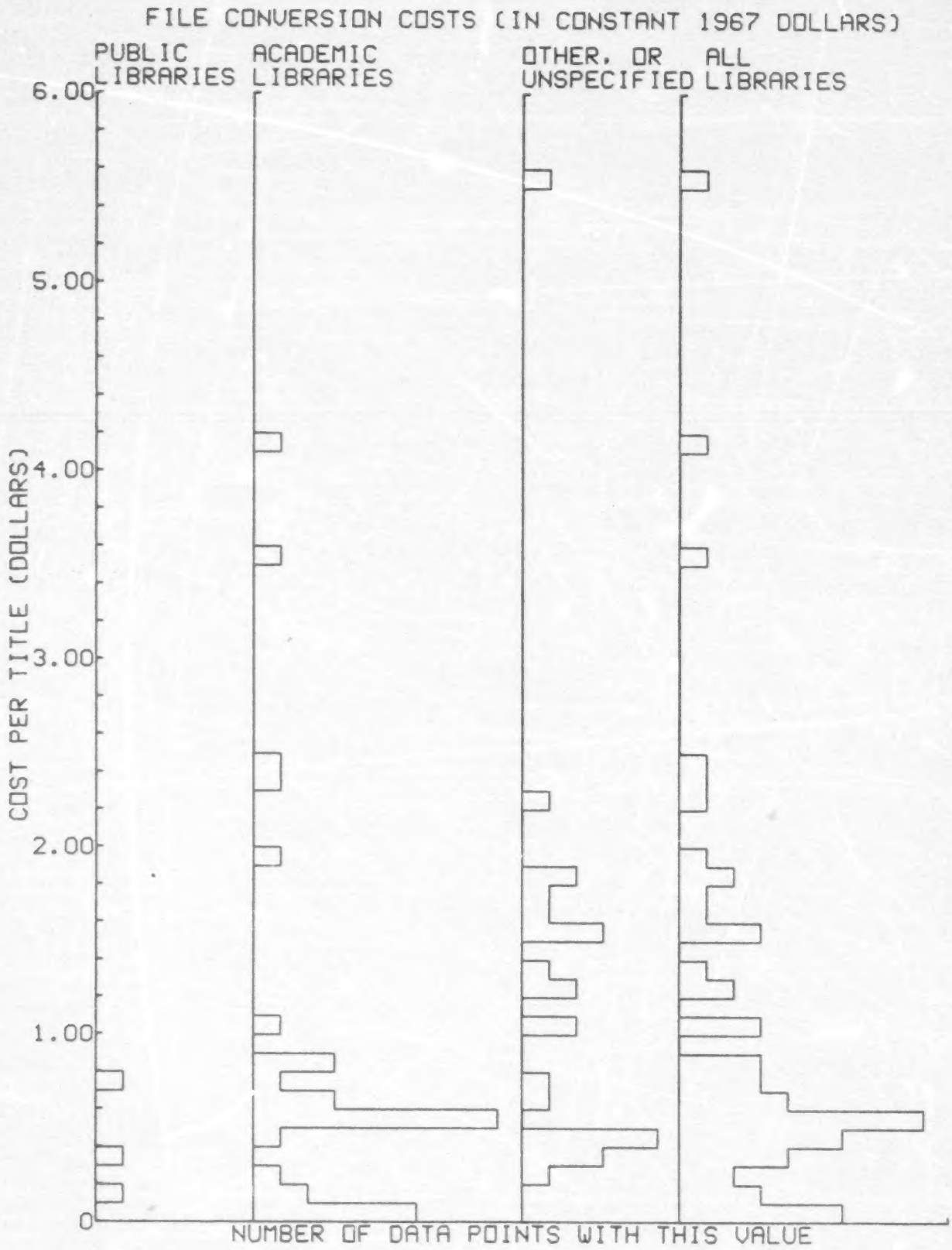

Figure 58. By Type of Library

Figure 59. Abstracting - by Date

Figure 60. Indexing - by Date

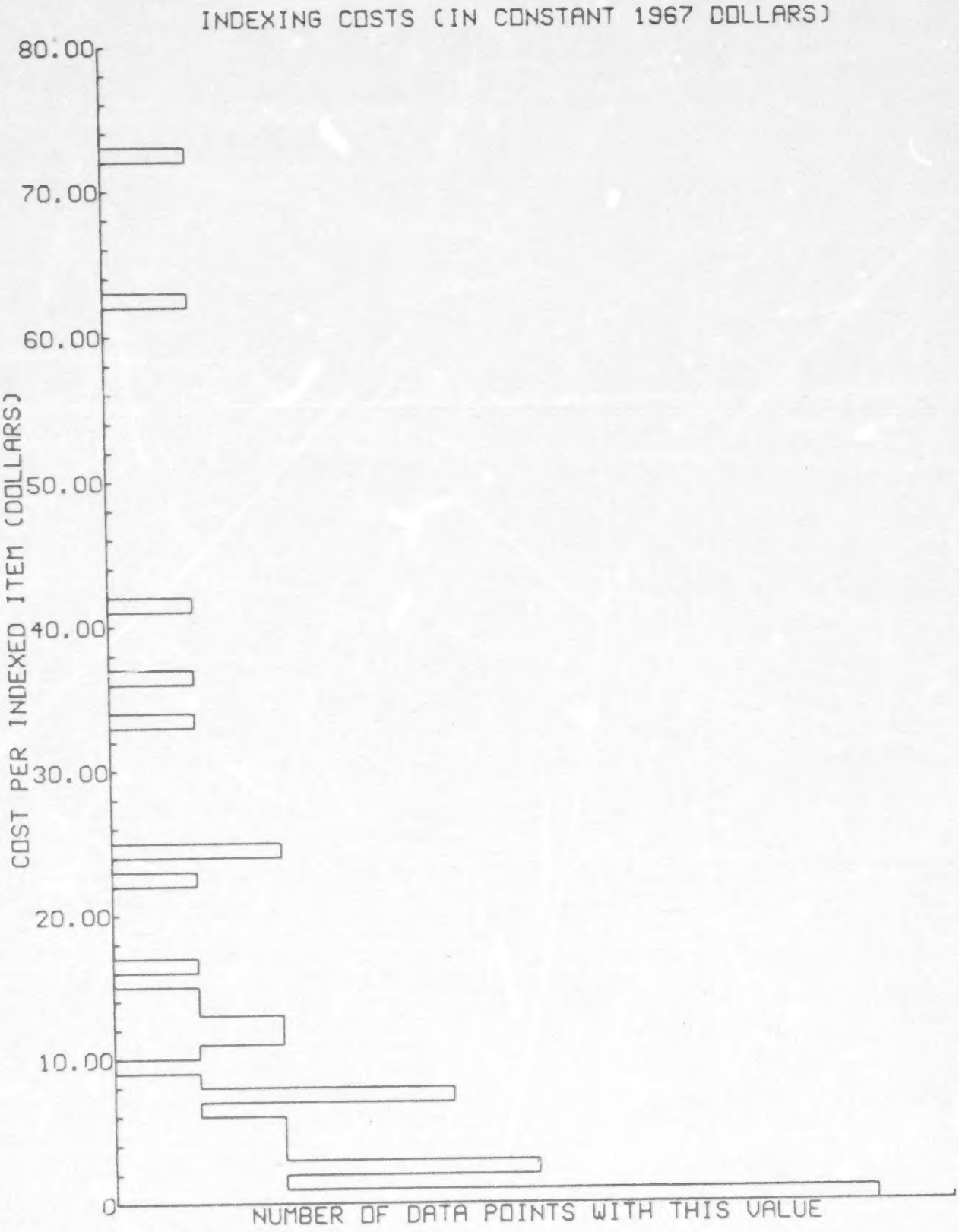

Figure 61. Indexing (histogram)

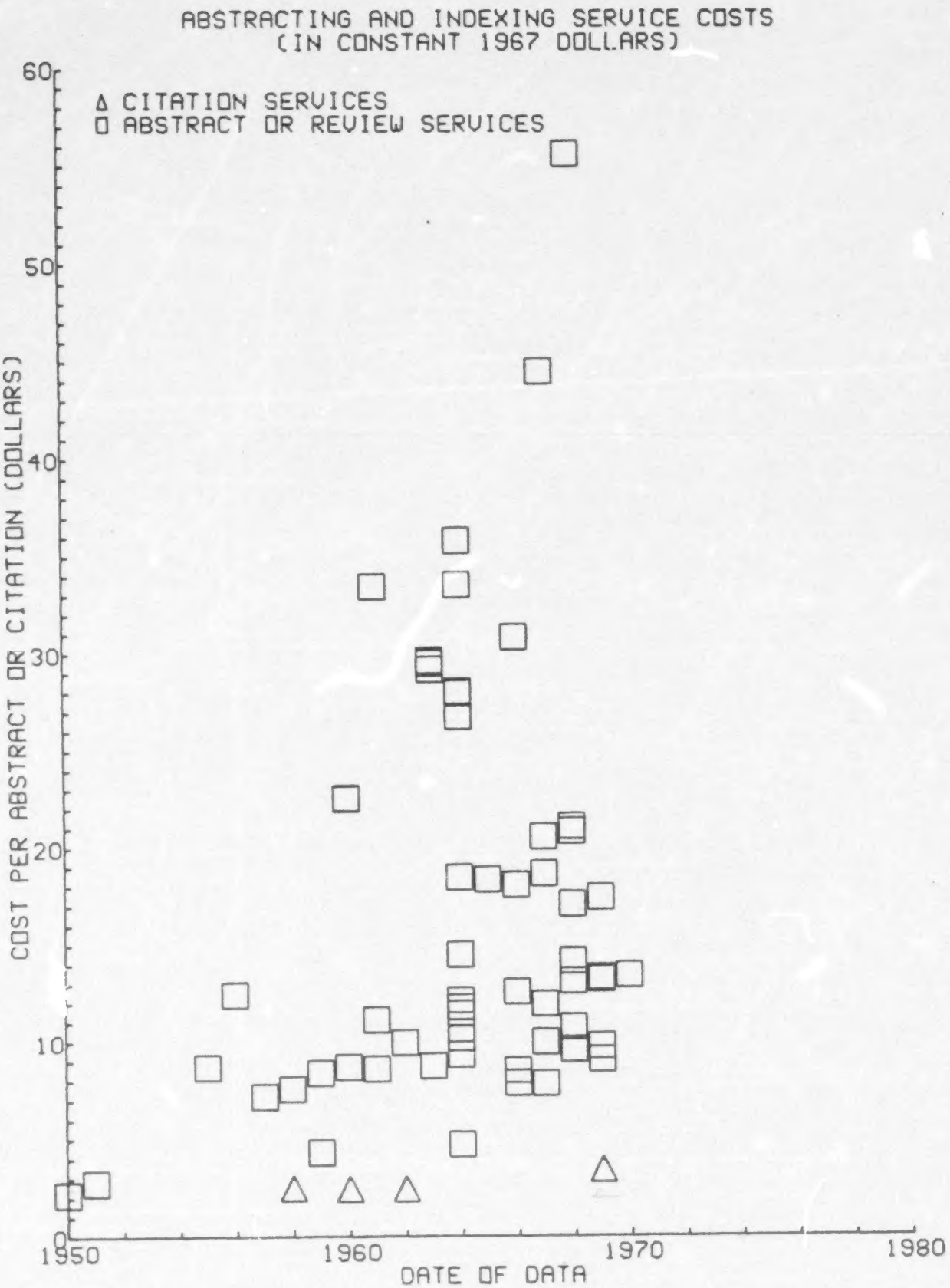

Figure 62. Abstracting and Indexing Service - by Date

Figure 63. Abstracting and Indexing Service - by Annual Processing Volume